

Remember Me

by OniKuShita

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Summary: AU. Chizurus eyes widened as she saw how he looked [...] again in her direction with those cold green eyes [...]. Slowly, he [...] touched with his hand the lock which burned down in the next moment. [...] Chizuru stood frozen at her place [...]. She blinked as she saw how Okita stretched his hand out for her [...]. (Chapter 15)  
ON HIATUS!

## 1. Prologue

**\*\*Chapter updated!\*\***

**\*\*Here comes my first chapter fic. I hope that you can bear with me and my English language because I am \*\*\*\*not\*\*\*\* a native speaker. So it could be that there are some minor errors. But when this did not prevent you from reading, then I can say nothing more than enjoy and please leave a review what you think about my work. I would appreciate it.\*\***

### \_\_Prologue\_\_

The burning fire licked his skin, touched it with its hot sensation. The glowing light embraced his whole body in its dangerous warmth. He appeared like a creature from another world. His snow-white hair danced in the wind, like cherry blossoms at spring, while his red eyes glowed in the light of the fire. They resembled two bloody rubies. His mouth stretched into a wicked smile as he stared with piercing gaze at the men who surrounded them, glimmering in pure madness.

They were armed with guns, holding them in the direction of his heart, ready for the kill. Every normal person would feel nervous when someone threatened his life like this, but this man did not show any fear. No, he was\_ amused\_.

Chizuru, who sat on the ground, felt how her whole body shook from the adrenaline which shot through her veins. Her heart pounded heavily against her chest, making it hard for her to breath normally. She could not move or make a gesture that could show that she was alive at all. Even her little finger refused to make a motion. In awe, she looked at his broad back that protected her from the sight of the guns with the goal to end her life. Her dry throat constricted, while her big brown eyes stared in disbelief at the scene in front of her eyes.

No matter how often she thought about it, there was no way something like this could really happen. Just an hour ago, she was together with Sen at the Shopping Mall. And now she was trapped between dangerous men who would not let her go so easily. It had to be a bad dream or something similar. Yes, this was the best explanation she had. The only thing she had to do was to wake up. She closed her eyes, trying hard to break free from this never ending nightmare, but to her regret nothing happened.

As she opened her eyes, she heard the soft click of guns that echoed in her ears, as the men readied for the finishing blow. Even though most of the guns were aimed at him, there were a few which were meant for her. It was obvious how things would end. With a bitter smile, she pressed her eyes together. She did not want to see how he or she would die on the spot only because of her carelessness. Had she really thought she could change something ? Or was she simply too naive ?

She was sure she would never find out.

Suddenly, the picture of her family popped up in her mind. She would never see them again. At this thought, a silent tear left her right eye as she pressed her lips together to suppress a sob. All of these things did not matter anymore. Her life would end before it really began.

In the next moment, you could hear the sound of bullets that shot through the air.

## 2. Chapter 1

**\*\*Chapter updated!\*\***

**\*\*Thanks for the ones who took a look at my work! Enjoy!\*\***

### \_Chapter 1\_

With her trained eyes, she looked at the dark-haired man who was lying in front of her, with outstretched legs and the back touching the ground. Blue eyes looked nothingness, deprived of any life and the mouth hung lightly open in a never heard scream. As she let her gaze wander around, she saw numerous flesh wounds that covered his upper body and dried blood that drained his clothes and the bottom. It was as if someone had torn him into pieces, so that no one could recognize the corpse. Only his ID, which they found in his pocket together with his wallet, helped them to identify who he was.

\_Daisuke Kenji, 24 years old, married.\_

It was hard for her to even look at the corpse. The scene was too cruel. To think that a human could do such a thing to another. In her mind, only a beast could do this kind of atrocity. Even though she had seen many deaths in the last years during her job, this case was different from all the ones she had to take, because there was a thing that occupied her mind.

The man was drained of blood.

She raised her head and looked at the gun he was holding which showed her he tried to defend himself from the creature that attacked him. In the next moment, she took the gun in her hands, of course with gloves as to not leave any of her fingerprints on the weapon, and turned it around to read the engraving.

\_For my dear brother. \_

The young woman frowned at these words and wondered if this gun was really his. She knew he had no siblings, only a wife whom they had to inform of his death soon. Then an idea popped up in her mind as she examined the weapon closer.

What if this weapon belonged to his murderer ?

She took out a paper bag in which she stored the gun and closed it slowly before she took it away in her own bag. Then, she continued with her investigation. With a skilled grip, she searched hints for further examination like the cause of death or the weapon the murderer used. After some time, she found several bruises on his chest and broken ribs that showed her he was bullied. But what surprised her the most was the roughness of the attacks. She knew when someone was bullied, he would have many bruises, but these were different from the ones she used to see. They were inflicted with more strength and violence than the ones she knew.

Perhaps those were the cause of his death.

While she took photos of the corpse, she heard approaching footsteps. They were coming closer and closer until the owner stopped in his tracks. As she turned her head, she saw a slim man in the same red-white uniform as hers with blue hair and amber eyes standing only a few meters away from her.

"What do you think ?"

The voice of Hideyoshi echoed through the alley, watching her carefully. His blue hair shone in the moonlight like floating water as he reached her side. The young woman stood up from her kneeling position and turned around to face him.

"If I didn't know better, I would think it was a vampire." He chuckled after her comment and patted her on head, like her father did when she was a little child. "This was a good joke, Chizuru-chan." She smiled at him, but murmured something as he ruffled her brown hair to show him her displeasure. He only laughed louder. "You know I like to mess up your hair."

Chizuru sighed and regarded how he continued ruffling her hair until he had enough and she began to concentrate again on the current case.

There was something that bothered her since she first saw the corpse. But she could not put her finger on what it was. It was not the lack of blood, though.

"Do you have any ideas of what happened ?"

He was right. She had something in mind concerning what happened to the man, but she could not say it out loud. He would think she was crazy after she spoke out her suspicion about a supernatural creature being the cause of the murder. No, she would definitely not tell Hideyoshi that. Her gaze wandered back to the corpse as she spoke.

"I think it was a cannibal."

She felt how his gaze was still on her, before he also dared a look to the victim. He was new in the business and this was the first murder he was allowed to work on. He felt like dead weight. Could he not figure out something important that would bring the team closer to catch the culprit.

How badly he wanted to be a help in his first murder case.

Hideyoshi saw how Chizuru rubbed her hands together to warm herself up a little. It was a cold summer evening. He felt the bleakness of the wind. He wanted to ask her if he could do something to help her warming up but he noticed something rushing in his peripheral vision. As he turned his head, he saw nothing. Only a few people who stood behind a barrier the police had built up. He shook his head to banish these thoughts until they heard it.

The sound of squealing tires echoed through the small ally. When they looked back, they saw a black car driving towards their direction with immense speed. It finally halted only five meters away from their place. A group of three men was finally revealed as they walked towards the police officers. The moment Chizuru saw the group, she exchanged confused glances with Hideyoshi. She recognized the uniform of the strangers. Only one organization in this country possessed such an uniform.

The \_SOC.\_

Chizuru looked closer at the newcomers. Her gaze wandered first to the bespectacled man with long brown hair who did not take the trouble to bind his hair together. A faint smile graced his lips. Around his eyes she could see dark circles that showed much tiredness. He seemed to be a very busy man, she thought. Nevertheless, he made a sympathetic impression to her.

Beside him walked a tall man with short black hair and stern lilac eyes that seemed to bore themselves deep into her soul. She had the feeling he could read her thoughts as he stared at her with this venomous gaze that sent shivers down her spine. Shuddering, she let her shift wander to the last one who possessed short lilac hair with azure blue eyes radiating silence.

The man with black hair looked at the two before he cleared his throat as they came to a halt.

"Are you the responsible officers ?"

"Yes we are."

It was Hideyoshi who answered the question with a frown. His face showed his confusion for their arrival. He seemed to have no clue why they were here, Chizuru did not either. The man gave Hideyoshi a form which he took in his hands and gazed at it for a short while. But he did not read it. Instead, he looked up to the man.

"What is this ?" The man before him sighed. "This is an instruction from our responsible commander. He demands that the police leave this case to the SOC"

Hideyoshi nearly choked. He could not believe his first case would be handed over to the SOC. He did not want such a thing. His gaze wandered to Chizuru who remained silent before he continued.

"Can I first see your mark ?" The man nodded and gave him his mark. On it, you could see his name and his position in the SOC as a high officer. "Hijikata Surugi\_,\_ I am sorry but I can't give you the permission without speaking with my chief. You have to-"

"This isn't necessary. We already have the permission." It was the lilac haired guy who talked and stepped forward to give them another document. This time, it was Chizuru who took it. As their hands met, she felt how cold his fingers were although it was summer. She read over it and noticed this was indeed an instruction from their chief.

"Hideyoshi, I think they're right. We should go." He looked at her in disbelief. "Chizuru-chan, what are you talking about ?" She only shook her head and bowed deeply in front of them. "Please, excuse his rudeness. He doesn't know what he is saying." The man named Hijikata only shook his head, showed her she had no reason to worry.

"If you excuse us." With his blunt words, he walked together with his companions to the corpse of the man and they began their investigation. Chizuru sighed in relief. The situation could not turn out worse, since they had not done anything that was out of line. But then, she looked to Hideyoshi who seemed to be upset. As their gazes met, she frowned.

"Why did you do this ?" He looked at her with a gaze that showed her how unhappy he was about the whole situation. She sighed. "I did it because we can't deny orders or act rude in front of the SOC. They stand above us in authority."

"But this don't give you the right to speak for \_me\_!" She saw how he gritted his teeth and clenched his fists. He walked in the direction of the car, but before he entered it, he looked back. "I think we are done with this. Let's go to the office." With some hesitation, she followed him and entered the vehicle. He started the motor and drove away.

They did not see the pair of red eyes that looked after them.

~xXx~

A soft breeze infiltrated the room through the open window, invaded

it in its cool embrace, played with the long brown hair of the girl which was tied into a ponytail and fell over half of her back, emphasized her huge eyes that were reading a file. The desk she was sitting on was large, so she had enough space for her work. Even a computer could be seen on her right side while on the other one, a stack of paperwork was set up. The sound of light footsteps echoed against the walls of the room, accompanied by a steady breathing, announced the presence of another person.

"What are you doing, Chizuru-chan ?" It was her partner Hideyoshi who leaned against the chair Chizuru was sitting and looked over her shoulder to see the file she was reading. He scanned it quickly and frowned. "Are you sure you want to continue working on this case ?" She nodded as she scrolled to the next page, not taking her eyes from the paper. "Yes, there are things that concern me."

"But you know we are not allowed to work on it, right ?" He looked at her with a raised eyebrow. A short pause developed between them as she laid the file down and turned around in her chair. He saw how she bit on her bottom lip and pressed them together to a thin line. "You have a point. Please, don't tell anyone." Before she spoke, she stood up from her chair, clapped her hands together and bowed lightly. Confused by her behavior, the only thing he did was rub his head and look to the side embarrassed.

"If you promise you'll go out with me this Friday, I can think about it." A faint smile formed on her lips as she jumped in his arms and hugged him. "Thank you!" She was relieved he would not betray her. Now she could work on the case for a longer time. She was so happy that she did not hear the footsteps that abruptly stopped in their tracks as the third person saw the sight of the pair.

"My my, Hide-kun. What do you think you're doing ?" It was a girl with long grayish-brown hair she had tied together like Chizuru's and lilac eyes who looked at them amused. It was not rare to see them being so familiar. They were like brother and sister to each other and everyone in the station knew it. She saw how Hideyoshi's cheeks flushed as he tried to push Chizuru to the side. "You know she just hugged me Sen. There is nothing behind this, really."

Sen only folded her arms in front of her chest to show him she did not believe him. Chizuru was finally made aware of her presence and looked in her direction.

"O-Sen-chan!" She rushed to the side of her friend. "Where had you been when we drove to the crime scene ? I was looking for you."

"I am sorry Chizuru-chan, but Kondo-san asked me if I could stay in the office to do some paperwork." She showed to a stack of paper on her desk and Chizuru nodded.

"I see."

"What happened ?" Now, no one could hold Chizuru back as she started her explanation. "We have a strongly beaten, blood drained corpse and no murder weapon." This was the moment where Sen frowned. "Blood drained ? A vampire ?" The two of them giggled alone at the thought, knowing they there were no vampires in the world. Hideyoshi rolled his eyes. Women could be really taxing.

"Yukimura-kun."

The voice of her chief echoed through the room. She turned around and she saw him walking in her direction as he came to a halt in front of her. She tended her head to the side in question. "Can I help you, Kondo-san ?"

"Your brother called and asked when you will come home this time."

At his words she only sighed. She lived in an apartment next to her brother's for a year now. It was after the instruction of their father who still was worried about her safety. This part of the city could be very dangerous. But she never feared the place she lived, no, she loved it. It was true there were murders and rapes all around, but she was a policewoman. She was strong enough to defend herself, even if her father and brother doubted this. With her service weapon, she did not feel weak. She raised her head and answered.

"Can I call him ?" Kondo nodded in her direction. "I think it's better if you clear up things with him. It's not good when he calls every time in worry for you." Chizuru knew he was right. She had to talk to her brother, convince him she was okay and that she did not need his protection. With a small smile, Kondo patted her on her back to encourage her before he turned around to walk back to his office. He had many things to do as the chief of this station so she did not say anything to his fast departure.

As she looked to the other direction, she saw Sen and Hideyoshi were still arguing. She decided this was the best time to make a call. The young woman took out her mobile-phone, dialed his number and held it on her ear. For mere seconds, she heard the sound of the selected keys before her brother received her call.

"\_Don't you know how late it is, Chizuru ? You should be home already."\_

"I am sorry Kaoru-san. But there is this one case-" He did not wait for her to finish her sentence as he interrupted her.

"\_This one case doesn't interest me, dear sister. Come home. I'll be waiting for you."\_ His words showed he did not leave her any room of freedom. Chizuru sighed. In the end, she regretted calling him.

"Alright. I'll be there in an hour."

"\_Good. Don't be late."\_ With this, he hung up. Chizuru put her phone back in her pocket, still thinking what to do. She wanted so badly to know more about this case, but she was not allowed to poke her nose into it because the SOC took their case away like Hideyoshi said earlier. But this did not prevent her from working on it.

She had made a decision.

With a firm step, she walked to her desk and took the documents in her bag. She had them copied after they arrived secretly. She would work on them as soon as she was home, where no one could disturb her. Chizuru put her jacket on and was about to leave, but she saw that

Sen and Hideyoshi had finished their discussion and were now looking at her.

"You are leaving at this time, Chizuru ?" She could hear deep worry in Sen's voice. It was uncharacteristic of her to leave so early. The girl forced a smile on her lips. "You know, my brother called for me and he wants me to come home."

"Oh, so he is controlling you like always." Chizuru frowned at Hideyoshi's dry comment and tried to ignore it. "No, he isn't controlling me. He only worries for me."

"If you say so." She knew he was not convinced by her words, but to her luck he did not say more as she waved to them. "See you tomorrow." The two said their goodbyes and she left the office.

\* \* \*

><p>In the middle of the night a lonely figure walked through the empty streets, covered in a black cloak, only guided by the light of the lanterns that stood on each side and showed the way he had to go. The sky was covered with numerous stars as he looked up, let his gaze wander around to the full moon, that illuminated his eyes in a pale blue light. A strong wind came up, played with his short hair the moment he stopped, let his gaze wander to the ally on his right side. Darkness ruled the small path, let no light come in. Without hesitation, he turned to the corner to walk through the bordering ally. It was very dark, but he had no problems seeing something thanks to his sharp eyesight.<p>

After some time, he reached the place where he was awaited by a man who looked at him frowning. He had a bald head, dark skin and was smoking a cigarette. As he saw him walking further, he took out a deep breath and let the smoke flow in his direction.

"Are you Alpha ?"

He stared at him, before he nodded. The bald man smiled pleasantly as he reached for a suitcase he had placed beside him and opened it. With a quick movement, he held it in front of him, showed the content to the man in the cloak.

"These are ten million Yen. Where is it ?" Alpha reached in his pocket and took out a small pack with white content which he showed to him. The man closed the suitcase and stretched his hand out for the pack. "Give it to me."

The two exchanged the things, before Alpha turned around. After his business, he had to return home immediately. It was a long and draining day and the only thing he wanted was to sleep on his comfortable bed. He was about to walk further when he heard it. Many footsteps approached until he was surrounded by strange men. They looked at him with malicious gazes. Without any sign on his face that he had even recognized the danger, he turned around to the bald man with a smirk.

"I think this means all of this was just a trap." He seemed not to be surprised in any way as he looked at the man who frowned deeper. "Are you not surprised ?"



"No, I knew from the very beginning this was a trap to lure me out." The eyes of the man widened lightly, before he took out the cigarette, threw it to the ground and began to laugh. It had to be a bad joke that he came even though he knew this was a trap for him. "And why did you come in the first place ?"

Alpha smiled.

"I wanted to see if you are able to kill me."

The bald man gritted his teeth. He felt as if he would only joke with him, it made him angry. With a stern gaze, he raised his hand and gave the signal for the attack. The noise of firing guns could be heard, the moment numerous bullets hit their target and a body was falling to the ground. A cry of excitement was heard as the bald man stormed to him.

"Is he dead ?"

He knelt down next to him, stretched out his hand to see if he was still alive. But before he could do it, the man on the ground grabbed his hand with a strong grip and broke his wrist. The man cried out in pain, before he felt something hot eating its way through his skin. As he looked to his hand, he saw his skin was burning.

"W-What the..."

Before he could finish his sentence, he felt how the flame took over and burned his entire body. He died instantly. In fear, the other men saw how their leader turned to ash. Alpha only looked with bored eyes at the ash, before his gaze wandered to the men.

"Who is next ?"

~xXx~

"You've overdone it."

Was the dry comment from his partner as Alpha took down his perforated cloak and faced the other man with his back. He already got the report of what happened just an hour ago to those men who tried to kill his partner and these news were something he wanted to avoid. Even if he found it interesting how many people tried to kill Alpha in the last months, it was not good to cause a stir at all.

"Can't you just shut up ?" Was the response of Alpha as he opened a cupboard to search for a new shirt. His old one was ruined now. The other man folded his arms in front of his chest. "You know it isn't good if others find out what happened. It could be that eventually they will show up."

After he changed, he turned around with a raised eyebrow.

"Do you really think they'll know what really happened to them ? I don't think they are such smart guys."

The other man frowned.

"Is this again one of your silly jokes, Souji ?" With a grin he

folded his arms behind his head as he walked in the direction of his partner. "My my Hajime-kun. You know we should call ourselves by our code names." This time Saito sighed before he pushed his body from the wall and passed Souji. The moment he was next to him, he spoke. "Are you not the one who broke three of our rules without being killed ?" Souji chuckled.

"You have a point. But you know, not even our Oni Fukucho has a chance against my charm~." While Saito stared at him in lack of understanding, Souji grinned from ear to ear. He knew that he admired their Fukucho more than he would admit to others and it was always good to tease him about it.

"What bullshit are you talking about ?" The two men stiffened as they heard the low voice of their Fukucho who seemed not to be in best mood. Souji was the one who recovered first and turned around to greet the black haired man with a smile. "Are, Hijikata-san. What a surprise to see you around so early."

"I don't like to repeat myself." It was clear that Hijikata's mood was more than bad, but this did not prevent Souji from provoking him further. "We we're just talking about something that we both don't understand."

"And what is that ?"

Hijikata regretted to have asked for it as he saw the devilish smile of his subordinate.

"We don't understand what 'rumbling' sound, eyeless, shaking endlessly it foams from the mouth' means. Can you explain it to us ?" He was satisfied with how Hijikata's head began to glow in an angry red. "Where is it ?"

"Where is what ?" Souji asked innocently.

He opened his mouth to say something in return but closed it again as he saw the confused look on Saito's face. It was clear he wanted to know about what they were talking about. Hijikata sighed deeply. He shot a venomous glare to Souji's direction before he turned around to leave the room. With a confident smirk, Souji turned around to leave as well. He was tired from the long day and wanted nothing more than to lie down on his bed to sleep until the next afternoon. He looked one last time to Saito before he spoke.

"See you tomorrow Hajime-kun." He passed door after door until he stood in front of his room. Quickly, he entered it and walked towards his cupboard where he looked for a towel.

"A shower is the best thing to remove all the blood", he thought as he looked down to see the red liquid still clinging on his body. It was not a good feeling at all. With this thought in mind, he took a towel before he entered the bordered bathroom and closed the door.

### 3. Chapter 2

**\*\*Chapter updated!\*\***

**\*\*Thank\*\* \*\*you for the\*\* \*\*reviews! Enjoy!\*\***

## Chapter 2

Days passed in which Chizuru was occupied with minor cases while she worked secretly on the one the SOC had shown interest in. No matter what Hideyoshi said to her, he could not hold her back with her investigation. Generally, she was a curious person who wanted to know everything when it came to things she did not know. So it was this time. When she got home, she would not stop with her research until late in the night to awake the next day tired. But this was something she did not pay much attention, was the solution of the case her only goal.

The moment she entered her car to drive home from work, she thought again about the murder which occupied her completely. It was as if she was obsessed from it even if she did not know the reason for it. Every single moment she had, she thought about the things which was not clear for her, longing for the answers she wanted, no, had to get. It was like an urge she had to nurse. From her research, she knew that it had to be one culprit, showed the traces they found and what she read in the file nothing about another person who could be involved. Another thing was that she knew it was not the first one in the city who was murdered this way. There were more than twenty other cases in which the victim did not have blood in his body. There had to be a connection, she thought.

The big question was why ?

Why were all the corpses drained of blood ? No matter how often she thought about it, there was no reason why someone should bother himself to steal blood. It was more easy to steal blood from a hospital than to kill someone for it. It made no sense to her. Furthermore, there was the question if the murderer was really a cannibal. She saw all the bite wounds on the neck of the man which showed her the ruthless violence which cannibals showed towards their victims. But there was another question.

Why was nothing of the corpse being eaten ?

Normally, a cannibal would eat the flesh of his victim, but in this case he did not. Then, there was the question why the SOC was interested in this case. She knew no other case in which they were involved before, and now they showed up out of nowhere and took it away from the police. What was the meaning behind this ? She was about to think about it further as her mobile-phone began to ring. As she looked at the screen, she saw the name of her friend Sen. The moment the car halted in front of a traffic light, she hold it on her ear.

"\_Chizuru-chan ?" \_The high voice of her friend could be heard on the other end of the line. While her eyes were still fixed on the traffic, she replied. "Yes, O-Sen-chan ?"

"\_Are you free today ? I wanted to go to the Shopping Mall."\_ Chizuru was surprised by her request, but this did not prevent her from wondering what the reason was for Sen to ask her so suddenly. It was not like her that she asked her out of nowhere to go out. But as she thought about it, she knew she had time. It was a Friday afternoon and that meant she had not much to do. "Yeah, I can go with you." She

could almost hear the smile from Sen as she received her confirmation.

"\_Okay, then we will meet at three."\_

Ten minutes later, she reached her destination as she drove the car to the parking lot near the entrance of the apartment complex. It was always her dream to live on her own without help from her father who possessed several companies. Twenty years ago, he had a new business idea which made him rich in the end. Nevertheless, he decided that Kaoru should live next to her flat to watch over her which unnerved her, could she do nothing about it. By this thought, she sighed deeply as she remembered last night as she came too late for his liking. He had scolded her and told her when she did this again, he would take countermeasures, even if she did not know what he meant by that. But one thing she knew for sure:

She did not want to find it out.

Chizuru left the car, closed the door carefully behind and walked a few steps to let her gaze wander to the apartment block she could see not so far away. She had now only one hour left until she would meet up with Sen. But until then, she had many things to do which forced her to hurry.

She entered the building and climbed up the stairs until she reached the fourth floor. As she opened the door to her apartment, she was greeted by a tidy looking corridor. On the right side, stood a shoe cabinet in which she placed her shoes. Above it, was a big mirror which showed half of her body and besides it you could see a wardrobe. She hung her jacket on the wardrobe and entered the living room. The moment she stepped in, she saw her cat walking in her direction, rubbing on her right leg while she purred. Chizuru smiled as she saw her little friend and knelt down.

"Are you happy to see me ?" The cat answered with a meow as she rubbed her leg with more force which brought Chizuru to laugh. "I know, I know. You are hungry. Please wait a second."

She walked in the kitchen and prepared some cat food, which she filled in a bowl, and milk for her beloved pet and placed it in front of the animal. The cat began to drink the milk with content while Chizuru entered again the kitchen to prepare some food for herself. She was very hungry. As she opened the fridge, she found instant noodles which needed not so many time. It was perfect for her. While she put the noodles in the microwave, she opened the window in the living room to bring fresh air in the sticky room. For a short moment, she let her gaze wander around. Her gaze stopped at a suspicious man who walked away from his spot as she discovered him.

With a frown, she leaned back and watched how he entered a car and drove away.

Her mind was for several minutes trained on him as she heard the sound of the microwave which told her her meal was ready. She left the window and took it out. After she ate her instant noodles, she began to prepare herself for her Shopping trip with Sen. She opened the wardrobe in her bedroom and was almost slayed from the variety of clothing she had. How should she find anything on this way ?

Wondering if she was able to find something she could wear, she spent most of her time with looking for the right clothing she had distributed on her bed as the bell rang. Chizuru looked up from her dilemma, not sure if she should go and open the door when she had barely time. But as the bell rang again, she decided it was the best to look who it was, could it be that it was something important. She walked to the door and opened it, only to reveal her brother Kaoru.

"Kaoru ?"

She was so surprised to see him that she dropped the -san from his name what he seemed to notice after some seconds as his mouth twisted to a grimace.

"Yeah, its me. I need your car."

"My car ?" She did not know why she acted like this in front of him, but it seemed to unnerve him as he sighed deeply and a frown formed on his face. "Yes, your car. Can you give me the key ?"

"But why ?"

"This is none of your business." Completely stunned by the coldness of his voice, she reached for the key in her pocket and gave it to him. With a firm nod, he took it and left while Chizuru stared after him.

~xXx~

Chizuru ran over the asphalt while her lungs pained from the lack of air they received, was her breath too fast to get enough of the essential oxygen. She felt how her heart raced at full speed while her legs ached from the unusual stress. In a few minutes, the bus should arrive and she was far away from her destination. When she came too late, she had to think about another opportunity to reach the Shopping Mall.

It was an option she did not want.

Only moments later, she could see the bus passing her, driving in the direction where she was heading. It was wide more earlier than she had expected. With all her strength, she tried to run faster to make it in time. There was no way she could miss it. With wide more speed, she reached the bus halt and entered the vehicle. Exhausted, she leaned with her back against the rail which brought her an annoyed gaze from the bus driver. After she had recovered, she paid him and looked for a place where she could sit. To her regret, almost all seats were taken but then she spotted the last free seat near the last line.

There sat a man with brown hair and dark orbs who was looking out the window. She noticed that he possessed a different aura from the other passengers. There was something which told her she should not involve herself with him any longer. Chizuru placed herself beside him, trying hard not to look at him. To her luck, he seemed to ignore her for what she was grateful.

After twenty minutes, the bus stopped at the Shopping Mall where she exited the vehicle to look around for Sen. While the parking lot was

full crowded with cars, the entrance was nearly empty, were there only a few people who walked in or left. She walked with her bag to the entrance where she stopped to take out her mobile-phone. This was the easiest way to find her friend.

"\_Chizuru-chan ?"\_ The voice of her friend echoed in her ear while she looked around. "O-Sen-chan. I can't find you. Where are you ?"

"\_I am so sorry Chizuru, but my car has a breakdown and I am waiting for someone to pick me up. I don't know when I will be there." \_Chizuru frowned by her words, was this something she had not expected. "But you are okay ?"

"\_Yes, I am alright. Oh there is someone coming for me. See you."\_ With this words, she hang up. Chizuru stared for several minutes at the mobile-phone, not knowing what to do. Should she just stay here and wait for Sen or should she do something different ? Sighing, she took her mobile-phone back in her pocket and walked to a bench to sit down. After she found a comfortable position, she let her gaze wander to the blue sky, regarding the clouds passing by.

The sun was burning down her head, heating her up and let her sweat. But to her luck, a soft breeze was kissing her cheeks and let her cool down a little. It was a good feeling to be at the outside when the weather was good. Chizuru did not know how long she sat there watching the sky but one thing she knew for sure. She was getting tired. With much force, she tried to hold back a yawn but in the end, it came out. Yawning, she stretched her body and closed her eyes before she took again a comfortable position. She felt how her head got more and more heavy as she heard a soft voice which brought her back to reality.

"...and eliminate him."

As she opened her eyes, she saw in the distance a group of men who wore black robes talking about something she could not figure out. Only this three words she could understand. Did they really want to kill someone ? Was it not her duty to stop this ? Or did they mean something different ? She decided it was the best when she find it out on herself. Chizuru stood up from her place and began to walk slowly in the direction of the men while she tried not to be spotted by them.

"Chizuru-chan!" She was only fifteen meters away from them as she heard the voice of Sen calling her name. The young woman stopped in her tracks and turned around to see her standing not so far away waving at her. Immediately, Sen rushed to her side with her bag around her shoulder with a wide smile which graced her lips.

"I am so sorry for being late. But you know what happened to my car." She apologized to her with a faint smile before she took her hands in hers and began to drag her to the entrance.

"Let's start shopping!" She cried out in excitement while Chizuru let her drag her along. While she walked, she turned again her head in the opposite direction, where she saw that the men were gone.

\* \* \*

><p>The room he was in was illuminated by the light of candles which pinned his shadow on the wall while he sat behind his desk. He looked down to his hands where he hold a package with white content, gazing at it with small green eyes. It was in the middle of the night and everyone was asleep, only he was awake. But this did not bother him, was he too busy to open the package and distribute its content over the desk. Then, he took a small paper and rolled it together. Before he could do more, a knock could be hear.<p>

"Come in."

The door opened, revealed Saito who walked to the desk he was sitting and looked down to what his partner was doing. With a frown, he came to a halt. Sighing, Souji turned around in his chair.

"What is it that you have to disturb me?" Saito ignored his comment and answered. "You know that drugs aren't good for your body." With rolling eyes, Souji folded his arms in front of his chest. "And you know that this isn't any of your business. So, what's up?" With a deep sigh, Saito looked down to his partner.

"You have a new mission."

This was the moment where the light reappeared in Soujis eyes. He could not deny that he liked his job, was it something which distracted him from all his problems he had to manage. With a foxy grin, he stood up from his chair.

"Alright, then I think it is the best for me to go until our Oni Fukucho gets angry." With this words, he took his new black robe and left the room.

\* \* \*

><p>"Bye Chizuru-chan! See you tomorrow."<p>

The two friends waved their goodbyes as they stood in front of the gate of the Shopping Mall which meant the end of their trip. It was a long and fatiguing day, but they had got what they wanted and wore their shopping bags over their shoulder. The sun was already disappeared behind the mountains, greeting the night which took in its place.

With a content expression on her face, Chizuru looked one last time back to her friend before she began to walk in the opposite direction like Sen did some seconds ago. While Sen went to the place where her car was repaired, Chizuru walked to the next bus halt, had Kaoru still her car in his possession. In this moment, she thought back to her last encounter with her brother. No matter what she did, he was treating her not as his sister. It was as if he would regard her more as his enemy than as his sibling which occupied her. She wanted nothing more than that he treated her like he did in the past.

Kind, concerned and considerate.

All of these things he was before their mother was killed. After her death, he changed. He occupied himself with his work more than that he did something he really liked. Other than that, he quit his judo training and isolated himself from her and their father. At the beginning of his odd behavior, she tried to reach him by talking with

him, but he was already too distant from her so nothing she did work. Chizuru shook her head to banish her thoughts and continued her walk to the bus halt.

After a while, the bus reached its destination. The station was nearly empty, was it very late, but she knew she could take the last bus. She was about to go to line four where she would drive to Kyoto, as she saw something strange. A man sat in a corner of line three, holding his stomach and gasping for air. With her trained eyes, she saw something was wrong with him. With the policewoman in her, she immediately walked in his direction, not sensing the danger which was radiating from him. As she walked closer, she saw that the man had a strange hair-color. It was white like snow.

"Excuse me, can I help you ?"

It seemed the man had only this moment registered her presence as he raised his head. He stared at her with his glimmering red eyes with let her shudder, remembered it her of blood. Their gazes were stuck together for several seconds, before he tended his head to the side.

"No, you can't. Just go."

She was not satisfied with his answer as she knelt down in front of him to touch his pale skin with her right hand to sense his temperature. But before she could reach him, he grasped her hand with an iron-like grip, staring at her unnerving.

"I said you should just go." he hissed harshly which let her frown. "What is your problem ?" She asked him in return. This time, he was the one who frowned. Then, his eyes got a nuance darker. He opened his mouth to answer her question as she heard several footsteps approaching, before a man shouted.

"Get outta the way, woman!"

Chizuru turned around to see the group of strange men she saw at the Shopping Mall standing there, wearing protective clothing and guns which they were holding in the direction of both. It remembered her of a special force. She was surprised and shocked at the same time, she could not believe why they were threaten a wounded man. But before she could think about it any longer, she heard again the man shouting.

"I said, get out of the way!"

In the next moment, she heard how a gun fired. She saw how the bullet came closer and closer, until it was too near to dodge it. At this time, she wondered what had happened when she would not want to help the man. Would then everything be better ? Or had she the chance to live ? No, this was wrong. When she did not go to him, he would be the one who died. It was only naturally that she could not make something better in her bad situation. She had made her decision to help him and now she had to carry the consequences. Moments before the bullet would hit her heart, she closed her eyes and awaited the pain.

But there was no pain.



Instead, she felt how she was pushed to the side roughly from someone before she heard gasp of surprise. Then, the bullet hit a body. But it was not hers. As she opened her eyes, she saw the white-haired man caught the bullet with the back of his transformed claw-like hand. The armed men stared at him with fear as they fired more bullets at him, but he caught all of them as if it were nothing special.

"H-He is definitely a monster."

One of the men spoke out in shock as he looked how the bullets melted away in his claws as fire took over his body. She stared at his back as more and more flames enveloped him and his white hair wiped in the wind. The fire radiated a strong heat which covered him, brought her to protect her eyes from the light which appeared beside the warmth. After some moments, the light disappeared, while the man stood at the same spot, still surrounded by flames. The commander of the unit paled by the sight, tried hard to compose his mind.

"D-Don't chicken out! Kill them!"

With his words, the men surrounded both, aiming for the man and her which let her eyes widen in disbelief. Why were they now after her? She had done nothing! Chizuru gulped as she let her gaze wander around and saw the guns which were meant for her.

"Do you want to live ? Or do you accept your fate ?"

A man's voice whispered to her, let her gaze wander around, looking for the source of the voice, but there was nobody. Frowning, she tried to concentrate again on the current situation as she heard the voice again, this time more impatiently.

"I asked you one question."

Now, she recognized the voice as the one of the man who stood in front of her. With a puzzled expression, she regarded his back. Should she give him an answer? She looked down to her hands and thought about what she could do. One thing was sure: She did not want to die. There were so many things she wanted to do in her life so it was too early for her. As she looked up, she saw still his back. He was not even bothering to look at her while she thought about her answer. She took a deep breath before she spoke out what was on her mind.

"I want to live."

The commander of the men looked at her with a confused expression, had he clearly heard her words, even if he could not figure out what she meant by that, had he not heard the words the man had spoken. The grin of the man in front of her, which she could not see due to her position, widened. This was the moment he looked back to her with an unreadable expression.

"Alright. When this is your decision."

He smiled at her. It was a beautiful smile. Again, he turned his head to the men in front of him and raised his right hand. Before he could do more, she heard how the guns fired and closed her eyes while a tear ran down her cheek. She had expected to feel pain during her death, but again, there was nothing. The only thing which happened

was the screams she heard from the men. As she opened her eyes, she saw in horror how the bodies of the men burnt down while they screamed in agony.

"T-This is impossible..."

While the bodies of his comrades turned to ash, the commander of the group was the only one who was left. Chizuru watched how the man in front of her began to walk slowly in the direction of the last survivor. Something in her knew what would happen to him and there was the strong urge in her to stop him. She was after all a policewoman and it was her duty to protect the people. But the man who would die wanted to kill them first...

What should she do ?

Chizuru pressed her lips together as she thought about it. She was aware that she had no time to think so she did what she had to do. With much force she tried to move, but her legs refused their job as if they were glued on the spot. What was happening with her, she wondered as she looked to her legs, trying hard to move them. As she looked up again, she saw that he had nearly reached the man. There was no way she could waste more time. Without thinking, she stood up and sprinted in his direction to take position in front of the white-haired man who froze in place, taken aback by surprise. Now, she could see again his ruby eyes which pierced themselves in her brown ones after he recovered.

"What are you doing ?" The deep voice of him asked her in a demanding tone which let her body shudder. She had never heard before such a cold voice. While she tried to regain her composure, she answered with a hopefully strong voice. "I am just trying to prevent you from killing him. It is not right to kill!"

The man in front of her raised an eyebrow in confusion. It seemed that no one before did what she did now. But it became more worse as he chuckled and looked at her with these red eyes which showed her who was stronger between both.

"Do you really think you could stop me ?" She knew it was a rhetorical question and that he did not expect an answer, but this did not prevent her from speaking. "If I don't stop you, nobody will."

Silence expanded between the two, while they simply ignored the other man who was frozen from fear. It was a staring battle where no one was willed to give up. In the next moment, she felt a hand on her throat and how she was raised from the ground by him.

"You have some guts, but this isn't enough to stop me."

Then, she felt the fire leaking on her neck while she tried to scream, but he prevented it by pressing her throat more together, let her gasp for air. She felt how the oxygen escaped her parted lips and the pain got stronger and stronger from the heat of the flames. Was he not the one who asked her if she wanted to live ? Why was he now killing her ? With all the strength she had left, she forced out the next words.

"W-Why...? Y-You asked me if I want to live." His eyes hardened

before his wicked grin reappeared.

"Even if I asked you that, did you really think I would let you go after what you witnessed ? I know you would talk about it when someone torture you."

Her eyes widened in shock as she felt how her oxygen came to an end and her lungs screamed for new air. No, she did not want to die! While he hold her, she tried to reach for the gun in her pocket. Even if she knew that bullets did not have the wished effect on him, this was the only thing she could do. She reached for her gun and took it quickly out. He seemed to know what she wanted to do as he saw her gun and reached with his free hand for it. In panic, she laid her finger on the trigger and shot in his right arm. This time, the bullet hit its target which surprised her as she saw how it flew through his arm and hit the ground. A twisted grimace could be seen on his face as he looked at his arm in pain.

"You will regret this." he murmured.

He just wanted to finish her off as he saw a movement in his peripheral vision. As he turned his head, he saw the man who survived all this mess was trying to escape by running. With an unnerved sigh, he let go of her. She fell to the ground on her butt, coughing roughly and holding her pained neck on which you could see strangulation marks. Her vision was blurry for a short time until she could see clearer. Trembling, she picked up her gun which fall to the ground as he let her go and looked around to see where he was.

Then, she heard again a scream.

In panic, she looked in the direction to see how he killed the last survivor of the special force and watched how his victim turned to ash. He turned his head around before he began to walk back to her. With shaking fingers, she raised her gun and hold it in the direction of his head. When he would come too near, she would shoot. As he was only two meters away from her, he stopped, looking down at her with those foreboding red eyes. She felt how her heart pondered painfully in her chest and sweat covered her forehead as he stretched out his hand.

He was about to kill her.

She laid her finger on the trigger, ready to kill him first as he suddenly hesitated and looked at his right. Curious about why he hesitated, she did the same but there was nobody. As she looked again in his direction, she saw that he was disappeared. She lowered her gun and looked for a long time at the spot where the man stood some moments ago, not able to believe what she just witnessed. Is this just really happened ? Or was this only her own imagination ? As she let her gaze wander to the ash on the ground, she knew the answer. With shaking fingers, she took her gun away in her pocket and stood up from her kneeling position.

In the same moment the bus arrived.

#### 4. Chapter 3

**\*\*Chapter updated!\*\***

**\*\*Again, a big thanks to the ones who left a review. You guys are great!\*\***

### \_Chapter 3\_

With a blank expression she sat in her chair, looking at the file in front of her while her head hung limp. Her eyes were glassy, showed nothing of her courage she normally had, as she remembered Friday nights incident where she saw how this guy killed all the men merciless.

It was a terrible memory.

He did not even hesitate to try to kill her. If he had not gone, she was sure she would be dead now. A shudder went down her spin as she remembered back his bloody red eyes which seemed to stare into her mind and see what she was up to do. Then there was the point that no one would believe her when she would talk about this. She was part of the police and she knew that they would think she had too much stress when she would talk about a man who could produce fire with his body. But when she was honest with herself, she knew that even she would not believe such a story.

Sighing, she took the file down and turned to her computer where she scrolled through the files to search for something that could serve her as distraction. After a while she found an interesting case and read through it.

"Chizuru-chan ?" It was the voice of Sen which brought her back to reality. As she looked up, she saw her friend standing beside her desk with a worried expression on her face. A hopefully confident smile formed on her lips as she stopped her doings and looked at her friend. "Is something wrong, O-Sen-chan ?"

"You are too quiet since you arrived this morning. Are you okay ?" Chizuru did not know how she should respond to this question. But as she looked deeper in the pleading eyes of her friend, she decided it was the best to lie at her. She did not want that she worried more about her. "It's nothing O-Sen-chan. I think I am just tired because I was up till the morning. I am fine." Sen believed no word.

"Chizuru, please don't lie at me. I know that something is wrong with you." She felt immediately bad for trying to lie at her friend and thought if she should tell her the truth about her encounter with the man whose memory was still in her head. But would she believe her ? Or would she find her story too crazy ? With a deep sigh, she decided that she should tell it to her and was glad that Hideyoshi had his free day. He would for sure not believe her.

"O-Sen-chan, after we parted from the Shopping Mall I encountered something really... strange." She heard how Sen took a chair to hear better her story, and saw her smile to encourage her to continue. "It was at the station where I saw..." Before she could proceed with her story, they both heard a commotion coming from the office of their chief. With a frown, Chizuru stood up from her chair and looked confused at the door which pushed open the next moment.

And revealed a man.

He possessed short brown hair and emerald green eyes which were looking around the room, inspecting its furniture and people. In a strange way, it seemed that she knew him, even if this was the first time she saw this man. As she looked closer, she saw a bandage on his right arm.

It was the same arm where she had shot the man three days ago.

Her eyes widened in disbelief as she stared at him. Now where she looked closer, she saw that he remembered her a lot of the man she met last Friday who killed all the people. Could it be that he really was the one ? He did not even have white hair or red eyes. He seemed to feel her stare. As he raised his head and met her eyes, she knew it was him. In the next moment, all color disappeared from her face and she hold back her breath which he commented with a smirk.

While Sen was impressed by the pretty boy, she felt how her heart beat more and more quickly and her blood swooshed in her ears. And as if this was not enough, he was walking in their direction. She felt how her body shook and her legs wanted to give in by the weight they had to carry and how her vision began to blur. The moment she was about to collapse, she felt a strong grip on her arm which caught her and prevented her from hitting the ground.

"Chizuru-chan!" Sens scream echoed in her ears, but the only thing she did was trying to regain her sight which was still blurry. In front of her, was a face which was indeed too near for her liking, but as her sight got more clear and she saw \_who\_ it was, she froze.

"You can be really clumsy, nee ?"

He was staring down at her with a gaze which showed nothing of the coldness he showed to her this fateful night. No, it was almost \_friendly\_. A smile graced his lips as he stared with his green eyes in her brown ones which let her shudder.

"Chizuru-chan. Are you alright ?" Their connection broke apart by Sens words as the man lifted her up, was she still hanging in his arms, and positioned her on the ground. The moment she stood firmly on her own feet, she immediately drew back from him as if she had burnt her hands. "H-Hai. Iâ'm fine." While she answered, she stared at the man in front of her with a suspicious gaze as if she would await him killing her. Sen seemed not to notice the tense atmosphere as she turned her body in the direction of the stranger.

"Ano, can we help you with something..." Just this moment, she noticed that she did not know his name. He smiled. "You can call me Okita."

"Then Okita-san ?" She smiled back at him as if she would talk to a longtime friend and he replied it. "Yes, you can indeed help me because I am new in this job."

The time seemed to stand still by his words as she realized the meaning behind it. He was going to work with them ? Chizuru felt a thick lump building up in her throat as she saw how he watched her from his peripheral vision while he chatted lively with Sen, still with this smile on his face. She felt again the urge to just collapse

to the ground but this time she fought against it when she did not want that this happened again. Instead, she began to reach for her gun on her hip. She would not allow this man to hurt her friend in any way with his fire. Seeing this coming, the man named Okita changed his strategy and turned around to her.

"Can I talk to you for a short moment, \_Chizuru-chan\_?" Surprised by his words and that he knew her name, she let her hand slip from her service weapon, but she let never her guard down. With a short gaze to Sen, she decided it was the best when she agreed, if she wanted that Sen was not involved in her affairs.

"IÂ'll be back soon, O-Sen-chan."

Sen looked at her and him confused before she nodded, had she no problems with their decision. With a thoughtful expression, Chizuru left together with Okita the room. They walked side by side over the corridor without looking into each others eyes while Chizuru kept some distance to Okita. She did not trust him and never knew what he was up to do. It was possible that he would kill her now, was this his best chance, but she knew this would only cause him more problems.

They were after all in a police station.

As they were passing another door, she felt how he dragged her on her shoulder and pushed her in the empty room with much force. It happened too quickly so she lost her balance and collapsed this time, hitting with her head the hard ground. She heard the click of the door and how he closed the window blinds so darkness ruled the place. Then, she heard his footsteps approaching her. Slowly, she stood up from her place and drew back, trying to escape from him. But all her effort was useless as Okita came in front of her to a halt. Even if she could not see him, she could still hear his breath.

"I hate it to repeat myself, but you have really some guts." In the next moment, she felt how his body pressed her against the wall, pushed all the air out of her lungs which let her cough roughly. Then, she felt how he pinned her hands above her head and how his eyes changed again to this deep red she could see, was it shining through the darkness. He stared deep into her eyes which let her froze in the spot. With much force, she tried hard to regain her composure as she spoke.

"W-What are you trying to do ? W-When you kill me youÂ'll-" Okita stopped her by touching her shoulder. Was he now killing her with his fire ? Or wanted he just make her fear him ? All her anxieties remained unfounded as he simply let his hand rest on her naked skin which radiated warmth. "Do you really think I would be so careless and walk in a police station when I could finish you off just this Friday night without any witnesses ?"

His words were as casual as if he would talk with her about the weather what confused her. What was he up to do, she asked herself.

"Then, tell me why you are here." Okita smiled again, but this time it possessed some dangerous. He let her go and she fall to her knees, had she not the power left to stand, while he rose the window blinds up, let light in and walked in the direction of the door before he

answered her question. "I am just here to watch."

"To watch ?" She was perplexed by his answer and watched how he stopped and turned again around, looking at her with his red eyes while she forced herself to stand up. "I am here to see if you will tell anyone about what you witnessed. When you do it..." His next movements were too quick she could not follow as he rammed his fist in the wall only centimeters beside her head, let again flames arose from it.

"...I will burn everyone who knows it with these hands."

\* \* \*

><p>The wind played with his short brown hair as he drove with his motorbike back to the place where he lived together with the other guys. Since a few days they were in the city after they moved from Osaka. Every few months they changed the place for good reasons he recalled just this moment. There was an organization who is looking for them and it could be dangerous when they found out where they lived. But if it were up to him, he would not run away like a terrified animal.<p>

No, he would stay and fight.

Okita hated generally this life, was it not worth living in his mind. But his friends were in the opinion that it was more save to hide in the darkness than to live like normal people. He could not even go out some days or had to take a new identity when he was at the outside. The same he did at the police as he registered himself for the job. He could only hope that no one checked his identity.

A few minutes later, he reached the building, climbed down the vehicle and opened the door of the garage before he entered it. After he parked the motorbike, he went upstairs to head in the direction of the kitchen. Thence, he could already hear voices.

"Oi shorty! Give it to me!"

"No way!"

He heard the screams of Nagakura Shinpachi yelling at the young man named Todou Heisuke, wondering what happened that they were so angry at each other. Souji turned the corner and an amused expression graced his face as he saw the two of them fighting for a book Heisuke was holding. They had already knocked over the table which laid now on the ground while they had more space for their fight. In the other corner, he could see the redhead Harada Sanosuke who looked at them with a grim expression.

"Please you two, calm down. If Hijikata-san finds this out." While Sanosuke seemed to be really annoyed by their behavior, Souji had big problems to hold back a laughter and walked to his side. "What is the reason this time for them to fight ?"

"They found a book from Hijikata-san and want to read it. I don't think that he will like this." This was the time where Souji recognized it as the Haiku book he had stolen some days ago from Hijikata. The grin on his face widened as he folded his arms in front of his chest and watched them fighting for a while until another

person entered the room.

"Okita-kun, Hijikata-san wants to see you." It was Sannan who just spoke while he directed his glass on his nose, ignoring the commotion of the other men. Souji looked at him a little confused before he remembered that he had to report his doings during his first day at the police station. Souji looked one last time back to Shimpachi, Heisuke and Sanosuke. He was sure that Sannan would dissolve this commotion quickly, but he felt not sorry for them. He waved a short goodbye to Sanosuke before he left and walked to Hijikata's office. As he stood in front of it, he knocked.

"Come in."

He opened the door and entered the room where Hijikata was already waiting for him. The older man sat behind his desk, writing something down. But as Souji came closer, he put the pencil to the side and crossed his fingers into each other and looked with a stern gaze to him. Without a word, Souji took the chair which stood in front of the desk and placed himself lazily on it while Hijikata observed all his doings.

"How are things at the station ?" He asked bluntly. Souji did not hesitate as he answered his question. "Good. I am now a policeman and the new partner of the girl who witnessed everything this night. This guy named Kondo did everything what you demanded in the letter." Hijikata seemed to be content with his answer, but the strict gaze never left his face.

"And have you already met her ? Did she recognize you ?"

"Yes, she knows who I am." This time, Hijikata fell silent, thinking about the information he just received from his subordinate while Souji let his gaze wander bored around the room. He did not like it to just sit around and talk with Hijikata. No, he would much rather do something where he could impoverish himself. By this thought, he knew what he would do after this short meeting. A short training session was always good. Hijikata seemed to know his thoughts as he gave him a paper and spoke.

"Be careful with her. Do everything so she doesn't talk about this incident and kill the people where she do it. You know we can't need more witnesses." Souji looked shortly at the paper before he asked. "Why I am not allowed to kill her ? This is wide more easy than to watch her."

"I already told you the reason, Souji. Now, you can go." With a defeated sigh, Souji stood up from his chair and took the paper. Hijikata was still holding before he went to the door to exit the room as the door pushed open and Sannan walked in. As Souji passed him, he shot to him a warning glare before he walked to Hijikata to give him back his Haiku book he had taken from Shimpachi and Heisuke. The moment Souji saw it, his grin reappeared.

"Bye Bye Hijikata-san, Sannan-san." he said before he left quickly the room.

The moment as Hijikata saw his book he looked up where Souji stood just seconds ago and shouted.



"Souji!"

\* \* \*

><p>Chizuru returned back to the room where her friend Sen was already waiting for her and sat herself down behind her desk. She was still thinking about the words he had spoken and the threat behind it. That he would kill every person who knows about the incident. Alone this thought let her shudder.<p>

\_He would kill everyone if I do it\_, she thought.\_ And he would not shrink back to kill me after his massacre.\_

Again, her body began to shook from fear and sweat started to form on her forehead. Even if he was not present, she could still feel his touch on her shoulder and the abnormally warmth which he radiated. She knew that he was dangerous and unpredictable with his actions. And most of all, the only reason he was here was to watch her. Even if she did not know what he meant by that first, she knew it now.

Her thoughts were interrupted as she heard footsteps walking in her direction. First, she thought it was Okita and readied herself to took her service weapon which was still on her hip. But as she heard the voice, she knew who it was and let her hand slip from the gun.

"Where is Okita-san ?" Sen asked her as she rushed to her side and placed herself on the edge of her desk. Chizuru looked up to her before she looked to the side, covered her face with her hair. "He is gone."

"Gone ? Where ? And why ?" Chizuru shrugged. "I don't know. After our conversation he just left." Even if she did not look directly to her friend, she could imagine the frown which graced her face. "But he have to know that work isn't over now. We should tell him."

Chizuru nearly laughed. As if he would care. The only reason he was here was to watch her to see if she would talk about it. But then, she was the one who frowned. When he should watch over her, why was he not here at the moment ? Not that she missed him, no, she was glad he was not here.

And there was another fact which bothered her.

Why had he not killed her this night ? She knew that it was much more problematic when he go to the police station to work as a new policeman than when he just finished her off. There had to be a good reason behind it, she decided. And she knew she would do everything to find it out.

"I think we should go to Kondo-san and ask him if he can give us his phone number." Sen's words brought her back to the current situation. Now, she looked her directly in the face and as she recalled her words, she was more than shocked.

"You really want his phone number ?"

She could not believe what Sen was trying to do. When they called

him, who knew how he would react. Would he be angry and kill all of them or would he take it tranquil ? One thing she knew for sure: She did not want to find it out.

"Yes, why not ?" Sen looked at her puzzled what was only normal. She did not know how Okita really was and wanted to befriend him. Generally, Sen was the type of girl who loved it getting to know new people. For her, Okita was one of them. And Chizuru knew she could not do anything against this when she did not want that Sen distrusted her. She forced a smile on her lips and stood up from her chair.

"I think you're right. Let's go."

They walked in the office of Kondo and asked him for Okita's number. After a short conversation with him, they got what they wanted and returned back to the room.

"And who call him now ?"

They stood both in front of Chizurus mobile-phone looking down at it, still thinking who it would be who call him. Even if they had now his number, he was still a stranger for both of them. And for Chizuru, he was a murderer. But this was something she could not tell Sen when she wanted that Okita did not kill both of them. Even if he was not here at the moment, she knew that Sen would act suspicious in front of him when she knew the truth. This was something she could not risk.

"I think it's the best when you tell it him. After all, it was your idea." She saw a faint blush on Sen's face. It seemed that there were more reasons for her that she had proposed that they should call him. Chizuru hoped that she would not want from him what she suspected.

"Alright then." With her words, Sen selected his number and they could hear the sound of dialing before he received the call. \_"Hello ?"\_

"Okita-san. It's me, Sen." He did not let much time pass as he answered. \_"Sen from the police ?"\_ She seemed to be glad that he recognized her which Chizuru could tell from the smile on her lips. "Yes, Sen from the police. I wanted to ask you why you're left." A short pause could be heard on the other of the line. It seemed that he thought about his words carefully.

\_"I have to take care of something. Where did you get my phone number ?"\_

"I get it from Kondo-san." She could hear that Okita fell again silent. \_"Alright. Can you give the mobile-phone to Chizuru-chan for a short moment ? I have to tell her something."\_ Sen was confused by his words, but she did what he wanted from her and hold the phone in Chizurus direction.

"Here, Okita-san wants to talk with you."

With a surprised expression on her face, Chizuru took the phone and hold it on her ear. "Okita-san ?"

\_"Don't ever call me again or you will regret it." \_

With this words, he finished the call. Chizuru stared long at the phone while she thought about his last words as suddenly, Sen spoke. "What did he say ?" She awoke Chizuru from her trance as she answered. "Nothing important." Sen looked at her not very convinced, but she said nothing to it as she continued. "You wanted to tell me something before Okita arrived. Can you tell it me now ?" Chizuru paled by her question and turned her face around so Sen did not see it as Okita's words echoed again in her ears. "I know what you mean, but I have so much to do so I have no time for this. Perhaps later ?"

Sen looked at her disappointed. But to her surprise she nodded. With a last smile, Chizuru walked back to her desk.

~xXx~

She sat on the couch in her flat together with her cat which slept on her lap. Slowly, she caressed the cat with her free hand while she held with the other one the file from the case she was still working on. It was a mystery to her who killed the man named Daisuke Kenji a week ago. And she knew that she would not give up on it until she knew what happened this night. The moment she read the tenth time through the file, she saw something which she had not seen the other times.

\_"...and beside all the bite wounds we found undefined blood which is not from the victim." \_

Her eyes widened as she read this. This meant that the blood they found had to be from the murderer. A confident smile graced her face as she laid down the file on the table which stood in front of her. In the morning, she would call the laboratory and demand the analyzed blood to match it with the database.

With this, she could find the solution of the case.

## 5. Chapter 4

**\*\*Chapter updated!\*\***

**\*\*Here comes the next chapter. Thank you to all the ones who read and commented this story!\*\***

### \_Chapter 4\_

"Morning Sen-chan, Chizuru-chan." Tiredly, Chizuru looked up from her desk and saw Hideyoshi hanging his jacket on the wardrobe before he walked to his own desk, which stood between Sen's and hers, to take a random paper from the stack of paper and sat down on his chair.

"Good morning." She greeted him. With a yawn, she took a sip from her coffee while she heard how Sen replied him too. Since years they were a good team at the station and she hoped that this would never end. But there was one big problem in form of a certain person. With this, she thought back to what happened the day before as he infiltrated the police station. It bothered her he was now a member of their

little group and she was sure that their friends would soon discover his true self. Or so she hoped.

Speaking of him, where was he ?

As she let her gaze wander to the big clock which hung over the door, she saw it was past seven. Work had already begun. Even if it was none of her business, she found it rude from him to be late on his second day. After all, he was here to help them with their work and not to sleep till afternoon even if his only goal was to watch her.

"Chizuru-chan, do you know when Okita-san arrives ?" Sen's question took her by surprise. But because she did not know it, and more importantly she did not care, the only thing she did was shaking her head as she saw Hideyoshi moving in her peripheral vision. "Who is \_Okita-san \_?" Then, Chizuru remembered that Hideyoshi was not there as Okita arrived so it was clear why he did not know him. It was Sen who responded.

"He is new in our unit and will be the partner of Chizuru-chan." In the moment Sen spoke, Chizuru was drinking from her coffee. But by her words, she spat everything out while Hideyoshi's jaw dropped open.

"Nani!?" The two of them spoke the same word at the same time what was very confusing for Sen. But nevertheless, she recovered quickly and looked at Chizuru. "Didn't Kondo-san spoke with you about it?"

"No, he didn't." An awkward silence filled the room for some moments until Hideyoshi spoke. "But Chizuru-chan is my partner. What is Kondo-san thinking ?" This was a really good question for Chizuru, was she not willed to work with this man. Sen seemed to notice the tense atmosphere as she raised her hands in defense. "I think that Kondo-san has a good explanation for this."

"I really hope it for him." Hideyoshi grumbled.

Chizuru could not help but wonder the reason for Kondos doings. It was a mystery to her why she of all people should work with this man who was a murderer. This was something which she could not reconcile with her conscience. Even if the men he killed were bad people, this did not matter in her mind.

A human life was a human life.

And they had all families who cared for them. She was sure because only ash was the last leftover of their existence, they did not even know they were dead. Even after several days, there was nothing in the newspaper about the massacre. There stood only that homeless people had made a great fire and left all this ash. No one would expect that this were once humans. It seemed that she was the only witness who knew what really happened.

\_Perhaps I can convince him that killing isn't good ?\_ Alone this silly thought let her nearly laugh. As if he would stop because she pleaded him. All the things she knew about him was that he was a ruthless person with no feelings who liked it to kill and who threatened her and the ones she loved with the death when she spoke

with someone about the incident. She knew he was capable of killing her in one motion.

For this she feared him.

But she would never give up to do everything to hold him back the next time when he tried to kill a person. No, this time she would act and save the life, even if it was dangerous for her. Only moments later, she heard how the door pushed open and Kondo entered the room. Like always, he possessed this father-like appearance which they all liked. As he came to a halt in front of them, all eyes were trained on him.

“You have a new job.”

~xXx~

After some time, the car reached its destination and halted in the foggy ally. It was generally a day they could describe as gloomy, could the group see very bad through the dense mist which ruled the place. Chizuru had even problems to say if they were in the right ally through the bad visual conditions. But Hideyoshi was sure they were right and she knew he was someone who was rarely wrong.

They exited the car and walked in the direction where they could hear the voices of the other policemen who were gathered around the place. Chizuru had already heard from Kondo what happened, but it was also important for them to go to the crime scene to see it with their own eyes in order to solve the case. They walked to one of the inspectors who had already expected the group as he turned his head in their direction. He possessed short white hair and was not really fragile. No, he was strongly build, much older than them and wore a grey-red uniform.

"Are you the ones from Kondo's Division ?" He asked in a serious voice as he looked at all of them. "Yes Sir!" It was Hideyoshi who answered first. The other man nodded his head before he looked to one of his men. "Take care of things here. I have something to do." The man nodded before he did what was asked from him while the inspector guided them directly to the crime scene.

They halted only three meters away from a woman who was lying on the ground with a knife in her stomach. While blood clung on her mouth, her eyes were looking into the nothing. Her black hair was muddled up and her clothes were torn.

Chizuru was distressed to see such a horrible scene in front of her eyes, but she tried hard to show nothing of it. As a policewoman, it was her duty to work properly on this case without own feelings which clouded her judgment ability. This was something her mentor told her during her training five years ago. She knew this sounded hard, but she wanted nothing more than to make her job good to help the people so she had no other choice.

"How horrible."

She heard the soft voice of Sen whispering through the silence. As she looked at her, she saw how she hold her hand in front of her mouth, touching her lips, showing how shocked she was about the awful sight. Sen started together with her her carrier in the police

academy and she was equally taken aback from the cruelty of life. This was one of the reasons why they became friends.

Chizuru saw how Hideyoshi and the inspector walked to the side while they talked about something she could not understand. As no one was there to inspect the corpse, she decided she had to have a better look. In the next moment, she walked to the corpse and knelt down beside the woman to examine her. Quickly, she took out her gloves and put them on. The first thing what she noticed was that the fingernails of the woman showed strong wear tracks. Presumably, skin-particle could be found under her fingernails which would guide them to the killer. She knew this happened only when the victim fought with his murderer. As she looked closer, she saw that the woman held something in her fist. She stretched her hand out to take the thing she was holding. It took her a while to take the object from her hand.

It was a black button.

"Did you find something ?" Sen asked her, let her turn her head to the side where she was. Chizuru stood up from her kneeling position and showed her what she found. "She hold this button in her hand. Perhaps it was from her murderer." Sen took the button with her gloves and looked closer at it while Hideyoshi said his goodbyes to the inspector and walked in their direction.

"Are there any traces of the culprit ?" he asked in a serious manner while his eyes were trained on both women. Sen turned around to him. "Yes, we found a button which could be from the murderer." With her words, she hold the button in his direction. Hideyoshi took the button and looked at it closely.

"I think we should leave it to the securing of evidence." Before Hideyoshi could say anything more, they heard the sound of a motorbike. They looked up to see a person driving in the small ally, halting in front of them. As the driver get off of the vehicle, Chizuru had a really bad feeling. And it should be that her intuition was right as she saw who it was.

"Sorry for being late. I have probably overslept." The man put his protective helmet down and revealed the face of Okita. With a wide grin, he looked at the two girls whereas he simply ignored Hideyoshi. Chizuru felt how his eyes were trained too long for her liking on her and she forced her eyes to look back in his green ones. Even if she feared him and his doings, she was too stubborn to show him that and she was sure he knew it as his grin widened. However, their connection broke apart as Hideyoshi raised his voice.

"You overslept ? Do you really think with this simple statement it is done that you are too late ?" Okita raised an eyebrow as he looked at the blue-haired man who was about the same height as him. Seemingly he did not took him serious enough which she could read on his face. But this did not prevent Hideyoshi from walking further. "You know we are a decent police station and we don't need someone like you." She saw how his green orbs narrowed to thin slits and his jaw clenched.

"What did you say ?" Hideyoshi only frowned as he looked at Okita. "Are you deaf ? Shall I spell it to you ?" While he spoke, he made a step in his direction. She saw a weak glimmer on Okitas open hand and

how he clenched his fist. Pictures from the incident appeared in her head, showed her what this man was capable of. Chizuru knew she had to do something when she wanted to avoid a massacre. Before Hideyoshi could make another step in his direction, she threw herself between the two which brought her surprised gazes by the men.

"Chizuru-chan ?" Hideyoshi was confused to see her standing in front of Okita, seemingly protecting him. He had never thought that Chizuru would take party for this man she knew since one day. "What are you doing ?"

"I..."

She hesitated. What should she say ? That she wanted to hold Okita back to kill her friend ? In this moment, she remembered his words: \_"I am here to see if you will tell anyone about what you witnessed. When you do it, I will burn everyone who knows it with these hands."\_ No, this was something she could not make public. When she would do it, he would kill all the people who were important to her. This was something she could not justify. With a determined gaze, she looked up as she spoke.

"I won't allow you to touch him!"

Puzzled by her words, the only thing he did was staring while Sen did the same. What was she saying ? He could not understand why Chizuru acted so strange in this very moment, neither he could believe her words. There had to be a good reason for her behavior, he decided.

"You know him only since one day, Chizuru-chan. Tell me, why the hell do you protect him ?"

His gaze hardened by his words while his voice got louder. Chizuru felt how her heart ached by his harsh words, but she could not draw back yet. No, she had to protect the man she hated in this very moment. Then, she recalled the words Kaoru always used when he was annoyed with her.

"This isn't any of you business." She saw how Hideyoshis eyes widened in disbelief before his eyes narrowed. "When this is your answer...then I don't see any reason for me to get you back as my partner."

With his words, he turned around and walked back to the black car. She looked after him, before she turned her head again in the direction of Sen who stood rooted to the spot, looking at her with a sad gaze.

"Chizuru-chan..." She opened her mouth to say something, but instead, she forced a smile on her lips while she tried to hold back her tears. Hideyoshi was always like a real brother to her, and now it felt as if she had lost him because of this man. She felt how the anger boiled up in her body as she thought of Okita who still stood behind her. She wondered what his expression was. Was he amused about her foolishness ?

\_Surely\_, she thought. \_For him this is just a game in his sick head.\_

Sen did not wait for a response from her as she passed her and walked to the black car where Hideyoshi was already waiting for her. Only moments later, the car drove away, leaving her behind.

\* \* \*

><p>With his motorbike, Souji drove over the asphalt in the direction of the current crime scene, protected by his helmet from the strong wind around him due to his fast pace. It was a foggy day, but this did not prevent him from driving, could he see clearly thanks to his good eyes. After he had overslept and was thrown out of his bed by a very angry Hijikata, he is driven to the police station. But to his misfortune, his team was already at the crime scene he was told by Kondo, the chief of the station. He seemed to be a very nice guy, but he was too nice for his liking. He knew that nice people were mostly the weakest and died very fast.<p>

A picture of a man popped up in his mind, let him clench his jaw in anger. How many years he searched for this guy, he asked himself. He had done everything to find him, but nothing seemed to work which frustrated him.

Only moments later, Souji could already see the small ally. From wide afar, he saw his team together with the girl he had to watch. It was annoying for him to look after a small girl so she did not say a word about what happened, he found it wide more easy to just kill her. For him, it was wide more important to find this man instead of watching a girl. But he knew he could do nothing against his orders. Sighing, he lead the motorbike to the ally and saw how all heads shot in his direction. Calmly, he climbed down the vehicle and walked to his group who looked at him confused.

"Sorry for being late. I have probably overslept."

With this words, he put down his helmet and grinned at the two girls while he ignored the blue-haired guy. His gaze switched to the girl named Chizuru while his grin widened a little by the shocked expression that graced her face. Even if Souji could only imagine what she was thinking, he knew she was not pleased to see him. As she had recovered from the shock, her eyes bored themselves stubbornly in his green ones what he found really entertaining. With a smile still gracing his lips, he accepted the challenge. But their connection ended wide more early as this nameless guy raised his voice.

"You overslept ? Do you really think with this simple statement it is done that you are too late ?" Souji raised an eyebrow and looked for the first time at him. He had short blue hair and amber eyes which bored themselves fiery in his green orbs. It was clear that he was very pissed from his being late, but this was none of his business, he decided. How badly he just wanted to kill him that he just shut up. However, this guy seemed not to notice his killing intent as he spoke again.

"You know we are a decent police station and we don't need someone like you." He felt how his eyes narrowed to thin slits and his jaw clenched in anger. Had he heard him right ? He said they did not need him ?

\_How dare you.\_



"What did you say ?" It was very difficult for him to keep calm in front of this man. His whole body was under stream as he tried hard to keep his composure. But this guy did not know when it was enough as he frowned and made a step in his direction.

"Are you deaf ? Shall I spell it to you ?"

This was, he decided, enough. While Souji stared with the most threatening gaze he could manage at the man, he felt how a little flame arose in his hand and he clenched his fist. With this, he would kill him. It would be quickly. And then, he had to kill everyone around to avoid any more witnesses. He did not want to watch and threaten more than one girl. Souji was so distracted by his killing intent he did not notice a motion in his peripheral vision as Chizuru threw herself between them.

"Chizuru-chan ?" He heard the voice of the blue-haired guy who seemed as stunned as he was while he stared down at the petite girl with cold eyes. What was this girl thinking ? Did she really think she could stop him ? Had he not showed her the difference between them ? Before he could expand his thoughts more, he heard again the voice of this man. "What are you doing ?"

"I..." For a short moment, silence ruled the place, before she answered. "I won't allow you to touch him." His eyes widened lightly by her words, before a content grin appeared on his face. Souji had never thought that a woman would dare to interrupt him. But this woman did it twice. More moments passed in which she talked with this guy, but he did not pay more attention to it.

This girl was really interesting.

\* \* \*

><p>She looked with a rueful expression after her two friends who left her alone with this man. How she regretted it to say this words to Hideyoshi. He was always there for her when she felt bad and did not required something in return for his help while her own family was not there. Her father was always too busy with his work while her brother was too occupied with his study. The only one who was there when she needed help besides Sen and Hideyoshi was her mother.<p>

But she died several years ago.

The silence which ruled the place was not comfortable, no, it was suffocating and with every passing moment, she felt more bad. She did not even react as Okita passed her to walk to his motorbike before he turned his head in her direction, holding his helmet in hands.

"Do you want to stand there until you're rotten ?" Only his voice brought her back to reality. She looked up in surprise to see him watching her with an indefinable gaze before he tapped on the place behind him. "Are you waiting that someone else walk for you or do you come at last ?" This time, his voice possessed an amused undertone. She hesitated, thinking about what he was up to do. Did he really invite her to drive with him ? Was there a hook ? As if he had read her thoughts, he sighed before he started the vehicle.

"When you don't want to come, than you have no other choice than to

walk back to the station." This simply words let her gasp in shock as she ran in his direction. "Wait!" Like expected, she climbed up the vehicle behind him. With a satisfied grin, he gave her his helmet.

"Here, I think you'll need it more than I."

She took the helmet and put it on before he began to drive slowly. "You should hold on me, Chizuru-chan. Otherwise you'll fall down." Her eyes widened lightly by his words, before a deep blush spread over her face. "N-No this isn't necessary." With a confused expression he turned his head around.

"Are you sure?" She nodded only and he decided it was the best to not argue with her. But as he drove faster, she felt how she was pulled back and clung herself on his body as if her life would depend on it. The only thing he did was laughing before they entered the street and drove in the direction of the police station.

Thirty minutes later, they reached their destination. Only this moment, Chizuru noticed that she was still clinging on Okita and drew back quickly with a flushed face. Fortunately, he did not say something to her behavior. Instead, he left the motorbike and looked at her. She did the same, while she was still wearing the helmet he gave her she put down now. He saw how she hold the helmet in her small hands, lying it on the seat of the vehicle carefully. Okita waited for her until she was ready and turned around.

"Come on. We should go." The two entered the station and were greeted by Kondo who walked just this moment through the corridor. As he saw them, a big smile formed on his face. "Ah Yukimura-kun. Okita-kun."

Chizurus previously bad mood switched abruptly as she saw Kondo, let her forget the presence of a certain person. "Ohayo Kondo-san." But this should change more quickly as she heard his next words. "How I see you are getting along pretty well with Okita-kun." Chizuru paled by his words. She was overwhelmed and did not know what she should say, did it not match the truth.

To her surprise, it was Okita who answered before she could.

"Naturally we are getting along well. After all, we are partner." To emphasize his words, he grabbed after her shoulder and pressed her against his side with this false smile which she could recognize immediately. Even if it was a friendly smile, was it for her nothing more than a grimace. However, Kondo seemed not to see through his facade and smiled wider. "It's nice to hear that from you, Okita-kun."

Okita nodded and began to drag her along with him as he waved his goodbyes to Kondo while she stiffened by his touch. Again, she felt the warmth which radiated from his hands, knowing that this hands had taken away many lives. Even if no blood was on his hand, she knew he had killed before with it. Her thoughts were interrupted as he halted in front of an empty room and turned around to her with a raised eyebrow.

"You are a very bad actor, Chizuru-chan. When you don't work on it,

I have no other choice than to..." He did not finish his sentence, knew she all too well what he meant. He would kill everyone who was important to her. And she could do nothing against it. When she would talk with somebody about it, he would not hesitate to kill this person and then her. And when she would do it in secret and they fought all against him, she knew they had no chance. With his fire, he could burn them all. So the best thing she could do was to remain silent and do what he demanded.

How she hated it to not be able to do something against him.

With a short nod, she showed him she had understood what he wanted from her which he commented with a content grin. "Good girl." He patted her head before he turned around and walked to the office of their unit while she followed him.

~xXx~

They halted in front of the house where the husband of the dead woman lived. It was a big house with garden, pool and conservatory. In her mind, it was beautiful. Both left her car and walked to the front door where Chizuru rang the bell, waiting patiently for the man to appear while Okita looked around the garden. As the door opened, a middle-aged man with short brown hair and glasses opened the door, looking at both confused.

"Can I help you?" Before Okita could raise a finger, Chizuru spoke. "My name is Yukimura Chizuru and the man beside me is Okita. We're from the police and have to talk with you. May we come in?" The man only nodded and stepped to the side to make place for them. The group entered the house, walking to the big living room. "Can you now tell me what's going on?"

"I think it's the best when you sit down on the couch first." Reluctantly, he did what she asked for while she did the same and Okita took position behind the couch she was sitting on. She closed her eyes, remembering the picture of the dead woman in the ally whereas he waited impatiently for her to continue. As she opened her eyes, a dull expression could be seen in them.

"Your wife was murdered." Silence ruled the place for a long time in which no one said something. Only the steady breathing of the three people could be heard until everything broke out from him. "My wife is...dead?"

"Yes, she is. I am very sorry." She saw how tears began to run down his cheeks and his breathing was uneven. It was clear he was deeply affected by the death of his wife. "Can I ask you some questions, Goro-san?" The man looked with teary eyes to her. "H-Hai..."

"Where were you between 1 and 3 am this morning?" She asked the man who was a nervous wreck, visibly broken as he received the message about the death of his beloved wife. More and more tears rolled down his cheeks as he covered his face with his hands to suppress a sob. By her question, he took his hands aside, thought not long about his reply. "I was in my bed. Sleeping."

"Can anyone testify?"

"No, I was alone. Why are you asking anyway?" Chizuru noted his

statement, before she continued. "This is just routine. Don't worry. Had your wife enemies ?" Again, he thought about it.

"No, I don't think. She was loved by everyone."

Again, Chizuru noted everything while she thought if he was lying. All signs suggested he was speaking the truth. She was sure he could not make fake tears to convince her that he was really deeply affected by her death. This was not possible in her imagination. To her surprise, Okita raised his voice.

"Was this everything you can tell us ?" His sharp tone let Chizuru wonder what he was up to do. Goro seemed to think the same as he looked to him. "Yes, this was all." Even if Goro frowned, Okita could see how sweat covered his face and palms but before he could make a comment, Chizuru turned around.

"Okita-san, what are you doing ? He just lost his wife!" In her voice you could hear how angry she was about his behavior. How could a man be so insensitive, she asked herself. He just looked at her with this same cold green eyes before he let his gaze wander around the room, wrapped himself in silence. Ignoring him, Chizuru looked again at the man named Goro.

"I am sorry for his behavior but he is new in this job." The man nodded in understanding before he stood up from his sitting position and walked to the window. "Can you tell me how she died ?" You could hear the sad tone in his voice as he spoke. But to his regret, she shook her head.

"I can't give you this information." The man cleared his throat. "I think it's the best when you go for now." Chizuru could understand that he needed his time to handle with the death of his wife so she stood up from her sitting position and walked to Okita. With a not so enthusiastic tone, she spoke.

"Let's go."

He nodded only before he turned around and left together with her the house. None of them noticed the object that fell out her jacket.

## 6. Chapter 5

**\*\*Chapter updated!\*\***

**\*\*I am so sorry for the long delay! Some reasons kept me from updating faster. Please enjoy!\*\***

### \_\_Chapter 5\_\_

In silence, they entered the station and walked to their office where they should gather all the information they had collect. As Chizuru opened the door, she saw how Hideyoshi and Sen did not even bother to look up from their paperwork. Seemingly, they knew very well who it was. But the fact that they did not look at her made her feel more guilty. She heard how the door closed and turned around to see how Okita hung his black jacket on the wardrobe. He wore a red shirt, under which she could guess his indicated muscles and dark-blue

jeans. Okita seemed to feel her gaze as he turned his head in her direction with a grin.

“Do you like what you see ?”

Without a word, she passed him and hung her jacket beside his and walked to her own desk. Chizuru let herself fall on her chair and looked at the stack of paperwork which she had to do during the day.

"Have you find something out ?" Hideyoshi asked her while he sat himself on the edge of her desk. With a surprised expression, she looked up and met his gaze that told her he had not forgiven her. She lowered her head and replied. "Her husband seems to speak the truth. I don't think he has something to do with her death."

"I see. However, where were you last Friday Chizuru-chan ?"

\_Last Friday ?\_ This was the day where she was at the Shopping Mall and where she met...Her gaze wandered secretly to Okita who put his things away in his desk. Quickly, she trained her attention back to Hideyoshi who waited impatiently for her response. He seemed not to notice her short distraction to her luck.

"I was at the Shopping Mall with O-Sen-chan." He raised his eyebrow. "And why didn't you come to our date after it ? I was waiting for you." Then, she remembered there was indeed a date she had forgotten due to the things which happened to her. She bit her lip and avoided his gaze.

"This is..."

"You forgot it, right ?" She hesitated before she nodded in agreement which let him sigh. "So my guess was right, huh ?" With this, he jumped down from the desk and walked a few steps before he turned his attention back to her. "What was so important you had to blow me off ? It was a promise after all." She gulped. What should she say ? She could not tell him the truth where she really was when she not wanted that they all died. Chizuru raised her head and looked again at Okita who seemed not to pay much attention to her and Hideyoshi. She decided it was the best when she lied to him, even if it pained her to lie.

"Nothing. After the Shopping trip, I drove with the bus home. I forgot our date." With a deep sigh, he halted in front of the coffee machine and made himself coffee. Then, he walked back to her. "So you simply forget it. I really hoped you would come." He fell silent for a while, staring at his coffee while Chizuru thought about what she could say to ease the atmosphere. She knew that Hideyoshi was a man who hated it when someone break a promise. For him, it was the worst thing which could happen. After a while of silence, he walked back to his desk. Chizuru regarded his broad back, thinking about what she did wrong and wondered when it had begun that this invisible force tore them apart.

Hours passed in which Sen and Hideyoshi worked together on the current case whereas Chizuru and Okita worked for themselves. They did not even look at each other and Chizuru was thankful that he was at least a little tactful and did not try to come near her. She was too angry at him that it could be that she shouted at him when he did

it so. And the reason for it was simple.

It was all his fault.

Only because of him, she had argued with her best friend and felt now guilty. She did not even know what she could do that he forgive her for what she did. Would he forgive her at all ? She did not know.

Suddenly, Hideyoshi stood up from his position and walked to the wardrobe where he took his jacket. He let his gaze wander to Sen who seemed to be confused like Chizuru. But the only thing he did was pointing at the clock.

"Work is over. I am going home." With this words, he left the room. Chizuru looked for a long time after him, wondering why it was him who left first, was this very untypically for him. But before she could think about it any longer, she saw how Okita put his jacket on and looked one last time to the girls.

"See ya tomorrow." With a wink, he left the two girls alone. The moment he left, Chizuru let out a breath she had held back for a long time. She was glad he was gone so the tense atmosphere could ease a little. Then, Sen stood up from her chair and walked to her. "Chizuru-chan, we have to talk." The young woman looked at her confused but she nodded. What was Sen up to do, she wondered. She saw how Sen took her chair and sat herself across from her. With a strict gaze, which was more than uncharacteristically for her, she spoke.

"Chizuru-chan. Are you in love with this Okita guy ?" She felt how a frown formed on her forehead as she heard her question. What thought Sen about her ? "No, I am not. Why do you think that ?"

"Because you protected him from Hide-kun. You know him only since a few days and act as if he was more important to you as we." She was right. She really acted strange. But this was only to protect her friends from Okita! And the worst thing was she could not reveal the truth to them. When she would do it, bad things would happen. "He isn't important to me, O-Sen-chan." While she spoke, she looked to the side so she could not see Sen's face.

"Then tell me, why did you protect him ?" Now, she needed a very good reason. But what should she say ? Then, an idea popped up in her mind, even if it was not the best idea. She turned her head back in Sen's direction, trying hard to look firm. "I've protected him because he is new in our station and has no one who stands behind him."

Liar.

She could almost hear her inner voice which cursed her for being dishonest. But to her luck, Sen seemed not to see through her lie, even if she was not fully convinced. "I see. So this was your reason." A faint smile graced her lips as she looked at her friend. "I am glad you're honest with me, Chizuru-chan." Even if she returned her smile, her words felt like knives which bored themselves deep in her flesh because she lied again to her for which she felt bad. Sen stood up and took the chair back to her own desk before she prepared herself for depart while Chizuru watched all her doings. The

moment Sen was ready, she walked to Chizuru and hugged her.

"See you."

With a last smile, she left Chizuru with her thoughts alone.

~xXx~

At the next day, the group drove to the work place of the murdered woman. They had found out that she was a hairdresser and had a job at a hairdressing salon in the middle of the city together with three other people who worked at the same place. All had to be interrogated, could the information bring them further in the current case. The three, consisting of Sen, Chizuru and Hideyoshi (Okita was nowhere to be found as they prepared themselves for depart) left the car and looked up at the logo of the salon where they could see the letters for \_Salon of Flowers. \_It was not an old shop, no, it seemed to be a very new one Chizuru could tell from the lack of decay. The shades of yellow looked very nice she had to admit as she regarded it closer.

"There we are. Let's go."

With Hideyoshi's words, Chizuru followed him and Sen and walked to the salon. The moment they entered, a woman went in their direction to greet the group with a friendly smile.

"Good morning. What can I do for you ?" It was Hideyoshi who took out his mark which showed his Police affiliation before he spoke. "We're from the police. Can I ask you some questions ?" The woman needed a moment to look at his mark before she nodded. "Yes Sir."

Hideyoshi nodded to Sen and Chizuru, showed them that he would take care of the woman while they should go to the other two people who worked at this moment. While Sen walked to the only man in the salon on the right side, Chizuru walked to a woman who was the nearest. She possessed short red hair and blue-green eyes.

"Excuse me ?" The woman turned her head in her direction and paused her work, looking questioned at her. "Can I help you with something, Miss ?" Chizuru nodded and took out her mark. "My name is Yukimura Chizuru. I am from the police and I need to ask you some questions." The woman took down her scissor after some hesitation and excused herself from her customer before she showed Chizuru the way to an adjacent room. There, she offered her a place where she could sit and introduced herself as Todou Minami. As both were facing each other, Chizuru raised her voice.

"You might ask yourself what's going on, Minami-san." The other woman nodded. "I think it has to be something important when the police comes all the way to a hairdresser." Chizuru crossed her fingers into each other as she replied. "It has to do with your co-worker Yasaru-san." The other woman frowned. "What is with Yasaru-chan ?"

"She is dead."

The woman named Minami looked at her as if she would tell her that aliens would really exist. It lasted for a long time until you could

see a reaction from her. She guided her hand in front of her mouth.

"Yasaru-chan is..." She did not finish her sentence as the whole meaning of her words reached her. Chizuru gave her the time she needed for her own thoughts, could she imagine how difficult it was to handle the death of a beloved person. She had to learn this for herself as her mother was killed by an unknown person. Even years later, no one knew who the culprit was. She decided the silence was long enough and continued.

"Can I ask you some questions ?" Minami nodded in her direction, trying hard to be strong. It was visibly hard for her to handle with the death of her co-worker. Perhaps they were friends ? Chizuru knew it was only a matter of time when she knew it. "Where were you this morning between 1 and 3 am Minami-san ?"

"I was sleeping in my bed." While she spoke, Chizuru wrote it down in her notebook. "Can anyone testify it ?" Minami avoided her gaze. "Yes, my boyfriend. We live together in an apartment." Again, Chizuru noted it before she laid her pencil down, looking straight at the face of Minami.

"Can you tell me more about Yasaru-san ?" Surprised by her question, Minami looked at her before she responded. "Yasaru-chan was a beautiful woman with a charismatic character everyone liked and loved. She was a wonderful person." A pained expression crossed her face, showed how deeply affected she was by her death. "Died she without any pain ?"

Her question caught her off guard. Chizuru remembered back the picture of the dead Yasaru and shivered. No, she died not without pain.

"Were you friends." Minami nodded. "Hai, we were good friends."

"Then you can surely tell me if she had enemies." With this, Chizuru hoped she could avoid her question. She did not want her to know the true circumstances of her death. For a short time, a pause built up between the two women as Minami thought about the answer while Chizuru waited patiently. Whereas she thought, Chizuru let her gaze wander around the room. It was not a very big room and it possessed only a small window and a cupboard, on which you could see a vase with flowers that stood under the window. As she guided her attention back to Minami, she saw that her expression has changed.

"She told me about a man who harassed her since a few weeks. She was afraid of him, but I don't know who he was or how he looks." A frown formed on Chizuru's forehead as she heard her words. But she said nothing to it as she wrote it down on the paper and stood up from her chair. "That's all. I'll be on my way. When you come up with something new, please call me." She gave her her visiting card and left short time later with Sen and Hideyoshi the salon.

The moment they entered the office, they could already smell the scent of fresh coffee which hung in the air. While Chizuru's nose was focused on the scent, her eyes were trained on the source of it. Not so far away behind a desk, sat the person with his coffee as if nothing was wrong with his being here. As he spotted the three, he



stood up from his place smiling.

"Mornin'." This was seemingly enough for Hideyoshi as he looked outraged at his co-worker. He was not a person with many patience or who liked it when people break the rules. "You're again too late!"

"Are, are not rather you the one being late ? I was here all the time. You can ask Kondo-san if you don't believe me." To emphasize his statement, he pointed to the clock which showed the time of 8 am. Angry about his impudent lie, Hideyoshi spat.

"You...!"

Then, Chizuru saw how Okita winked at her and she understood what he was trying to do. He wanted that Hideyoshi plunged on him so he could hurt her friend. To avoid this, the only thing she could do was to stop him and hurt his feelings. Again. She felt how the anger about him boiled up in her and saw how it entertained him visibly. But as she noticed that Hideyoshi would do what Okita provoked earlier, she decided it was time to act. She positioned herself in front of Hideyoshi and spread out her arms.

"Please stop it." He looked down at her again with the same expression like yesterday that told her how disappointed he was. "So you're protecting him again..." Without another word, he walked to the coffee machine and made himself a strong coffee before he took a place at his desk while Chizuru stood at the same spot, looking down with a guilty expression.

\* \* \*

><p>With sharp eyes, Souji looked at the white dummies which stood between ten and twenty meters away from him. He felt how the heat increased in his body as he prepared himself for the attack. Then, he looked at the pointer of the clock which was approaching the number twelve. The moment the pointer showed twelve he ran in the direction of the dummies which fired at the same moment with bullets at him. Graceful, he avoided a direct hit with his inhuman speed and ran in the direction of the nearest dummy which tried to shot him in the head.<p>

In the last moment, he dodged the attack and hold his hand on the chest of the dummy. Seconds later, flames ate its way through it, let it melt away. However, Okita let not many time pass as he jumped to the side, only to avoid a hand grenade which almost had blast his leg away. As he ran to the next three dummies, he spread his arms and touched the chest of two dummies while running and let them burn like the previous one. After that, he ducked again from more bullets and chopped off with his right arm the head of the next dummy. More seconds passed in which he burnt, kicked or beat the dummies until nothing of them was left. Only minutes later, he stood there hard breathing, with limp hanging arms and aching body.

Suddenly, you could hear the sound of approaching footsteps, but Okita was too weak to turn around. He simply let himself fall on his back to the hard ground and looked at the face which appeared above him.

"Your limit is ten minutes, Souji." A weak smile appeared on Souji's

face as he heard that. "Thanks for watching my training, Hajime-kun." Saito only nodded before he let his gaze wander to the burnt or heavily damaged dummies. It was not rare to see after Souji's training that the dummies were broken, was it a normal sight for him. Generally, it was important for them to practice their abilities from time to time so that they could use their power without worry that they were too weak when \_they\_ showed up.

"Hijikata-san said that it would be better when you increase your limit to fifteen minutes." Souji's eyes widened lightly by his words. He should what ? "Is Hijikata-san insane ? How shall I do this ? I can't even move my little finger." He spoke while he felt how his limbs felt heavier and heavier with every passing minute. It was one of the many side effects that his body felt limp when he used all his power. This was one of the reasons why they worked always in teams. On this way, they could support each other. Saito only looked at him with a blank expression.

"It was his order. Think about a way."

With his words, he turned around and left the room while Souji still laid on the ground, looking at the ceiling. He did not know what he should do or how he could increase his limit when he was already done after ten minutes. Was there really a way to increase it ?

For him, it was impossible.

An hour passed in which he laid lifeless on the ground until he could move. He knew the side effects lasted always one hour when he used up all his power. The moment he stood upright, he took his shirt he had taken off before he started his training to walk to the nearest shower to wash away all the sweat that covered his body. After his shower, he walked to the office of Hijikata and entered the room after he had knocked.

"Is everything alright at the station ?" He asked without looking up as Souji came in. While he walked to the desk, he saw that also Saito was in the room what surprised him. The moment he sat himself beside him, he looked with a questioning look at Hijikata before he answered.

"Yes, she hasn't spoken about the incident. I think I've cowed her enough." The black-haired man continued his writing as he spoke. "Good. Hopefully, she won't do it in the future."

"What is the meaning for me and Hajime-kun to come to you, Hijikata-san ?" This time, Hijikata stopped writing for several seconds before he continued. Souji frowned by his odd behavior, but he said nothing to it whereas Saito remained silent all the time. Then, he laid down his pencil and looked with his famous strict gaze at the two men in front of him.

"I have a new target for you."

\* \* \*

><p>The sun was setting long ago and night ruled the place as she decided it was time to finish her work. With an exhausted sigh, she took her jacket and looked one last time back to her desk if she had not forgotten something important before she would drive home with

her car. It was already late and she was the last one at the station, but this did not prevent her from working long because she loved it. With her work, she could distract herself from her thoughts of her unloved partner who had left three hours ago. It seemed that he had more important things to do than to work what unnerved her. Generally, she found it rude from him how he spoke with the people at the station or how he acted. But to her regret, she could do nothing against him. No, it was more worse. She had to <em>protect<em> him from guys like Hideyoshi to prevent a massacre and this seemed to entertain him. With a defeated expression, she took a deep breath to calm down before she cleared the light and left the office.

The moment she stepped out, a cold wind embraced her, played with her long brown hair and let her shiver. It was not usual to be cold during summer, but seemingly this did not interest the weather. As she walked to her red car which stood on the parking lot, she remembered that she was too late for Kaorus liking and decided it would be the best to call him and convince him she was alright. She reached for her mobile-phone in her jacket pocket. But there was nothing. Confused, she continued her search with no result.

"IÂ've lost it..." She murmured in the silence as she took a look in her pocket and saw there was nothing while she thought febrile where she had lost it. At Goro she had it she knew and when she was at the hairdressing salon...she did not had it. \_IÂ've lost it during my visit at Goro-san! \_With this thought in her mind, she entered her car in a fluid motion and turned the key around to start the vehicle to drive in the direction where he lived to take her mobile-phone back. She was sure he had already found it and wanted that she come to take it back.

After twenty minutes, she reached her destination.

As she left the car, she saw that light was still burning in his house what surprised her a little, was it very late. Nevertheless, she walked to the door after she left the car and rang the bell. More minutes passed in which nothing happened. Frowning, she began to become impatiently as she knocked on the door.

"Goro-san ? I am here because I lost my-"

She did not finish her sentence as she noticed that the door was already open. This was something she had not expected. With a confused expression, she looked at the door and pushed it more open with her hand to see the lit corridor. She had a very bad feeling as she walked in the house knowing that something was wrong. In one motion, she took out her gun and hold it in front of her. As a policewoman, it was her duty to see if Goro was alright.

"Goro-san ?"

Her voice echoed in the house, but there was no response. As she entered the living room, she looked around to see if Goro was there and saw her mobile-phone lying lonely on the dining table. \_Shall I just take it and leave ? \_She thought as she looked at her phone. Seemingly, Goro was out and the only thing she wanted was her mobile-phone back. Even if it seemed not right in her mind to just take it, she decided she should do it simply. With firm steps, she walked to the table and reached for it as she heard a soft noise. Slowly, she turned her head to her right and saw Goro standing there

with his own gun in hands. She saw that he was holding the gun in the direction of her head. Quickly, she let go of her mobile-phone and turned in his direction.

"I am sorry Goro-san, but the door was open so I thought-" He did not let her finish her sentence as he made a step in her direction. "You could just go in and finish what you haven't done yet, right ?" Confused by his statement, she simply stared at him while she lowered her service weapon. From what he was speaking, she wondered. She decided it was the best when she told him the reason for her coming. "No you're wrong. I just lost my mobile-phone and wanted to pick it up."

His gaze switched to the phone she was referring to before he nodded and lowered his gun. Relieved, Chizuru put her service weapon back in her pocket. She was glad he understood her position. Suddenly, he stretched out his hand and smiled.

"Come Yukimura-san. I am sure you're confused by my doings. Let me explain it to you by a drink."

With this, he walked to the kitchen and came back with a bottle and two drinking glasses with red liquid. He walked to her side and gave her one of the glasses she took in her hand gratefully. She smelled on the glass and noticed it had a bitter smell. Then, she guided it to her mouth. While she did this, Goro regarded her with a nervous gaze what she did not see. The moment her lips touched the glass and she took the first sip, a dark smile began to spread over Goro's face as Chizuru let the glass fall to the ground. With confusion, she noticed that her vision began to blur and her legs got heavier and heavier as Goro began to laugh like a maniac.

"G-Goro-san ?"

"You're so naive, Yukimura-san." With his words, he walked to her and caught her body before she fell to the ground. Then, he took a knife he had prepared and held it on her pale neck. Even if her senses were clouded, she could realize everything. "What are you...doing ?" He did not answer her question. Instead, he looked her deep in her eyes. "You know, you remember me of my wife."

"You're...wife ?" She felt how it got more and more difficult for her to breathe as she spoke, but this did not bother him as he positioned the knife on her stomach. It was the same spot where his wife was killed.

"You know, I loved her. But she did not love me. She was only by my side to get my money I have inherited from my death parents." Then, he began to circle the knife around her stomach. "This was the reason why she betrayed me. But she betrayed me not once, no, she did it nearly every day. This too." Chizuru listened to his story while she felt weaker and weaker. Was there something in her glass which made her so tired, she wondered. As he ended, she tried hard to gather all her strength for her next words.

"H-Have you killed her ?" He looked at her with an undefinable gaze. "Of course I have. I thought it would be nice from me to reveal you the truth before I kill you, Yukimura-san. I can't let you go after you know the truth." After he spoke, he laughed again while he

readied himself for the last strike as the air froze. He looked with confused eyes at the scene, not believing what just happened.

"What the-"

Goro spoke as ice began to spread the walls. He looked shocked at the ice which ensured that the temperature sank under zero degree. As Chizuru took a deep breath, she saw how steam arose in front of her mouth. Thousand thoughts shot through her head as she saw how the ice covered everything in its cold embrace. Suddenly, the eyes of Goro widened and he looked in panic around.

"No, this can't be!"

With this shout, he let go off her and wanted to run away but in the next moment, his feet were frozen on the ground. While he tried hard to move his legs, Chizuru looked around the frozen room, trying hard to stay awake. She asked herself what just happened, as she heard a familiar voice.

"My my, you're always in trouble, Chizuru-chan." As she heard this voice, her body stiffened. Slowly, she turned her head around to see Okita together with the lilac haired man from the SOC standing in the doorway. She frowned as she saw that he did not wore his uniform. No, both wore black cloaks with a also black jacket. After she had recovered from the shock, she spoke.

"O-Okita-san ? What are you doing here ?" He smiled at her. "Should not I be the one who ask you that, Chizuru-chan ?" Now, she was more confused. She was just here to get her phone back and he ? What business had he to do here ? "I-I'm here because I lost my mobile-phone." He seemed to be surprised by her answer as he looked at her with these green eyes which sent normally shivers down her spine. But this time, she felt too weak to react properly. What he was thinking this very moment, she wondered. But before she could say a single word, the man named Goro murmured.

"You can't be the ones from which they told me. No, this can't be." While he spoke, he took his gun out and hold it in the direction of Okita's head. He was in his mind the more dangerous person than the lilac haired guy. But neither one of them seemed to take him seriously as the other man walked in Goro's direction. In panic, he began to shoot at him, but none of the bullet hit their target as they froze in the air and fell to the ground.

"No, No, NO!"

Goro shot with more and more bullets until he had nothing left. In fear, he looked in the azure-blue eyes of the lilac haired man who stretched out his hand and touched his forehead. Only seconds later, ice began to spread at the spot he had touched him over his body until he was covered whole. While Chizuru stared in disbelief what this man had just done to Goro, Okita walked to his friend.

"Good work, Hajime-kun." With a satisfied smile, he walked to Goro and looked at his frozen face, before he laid his own hand on his chest and melt the ice and the body under it away until only a lumpy mass was the last leftover of the man. Chizuru's eyes were trained on the mass of the man named Goro while she wondered why he had to die.

"Oi, Chizuru-chan. Don't worry, it's over. We've killed this scum." As she heard the voice of Okita, she had the urge to hold her hands on her ears to not hear his voice again. But instead, she looked with weak eyes at Okita who stood over her, stretching out his hand to help her up. Just this moment, he saw the broken glass with the red liquid on the ground and sighed.

"So you fall into his trap. I think we should take you to the hospital first." With his words, he picked her up from the ground in bridal style whereas Chizuru remained still, even if she did not want that he carried her, she had not the strength left to fight him. He did not pay much attention to it as he looked back to his partner.

"Let's go, Hajime-kun."

With a short nod, the man called Hajime and Okita left the house.

## 7. Chapter 6

**\*\*Chapter updated!\*\***

**\*\*The next chapter is out! Thank you for the ones who reviewed! Like always, enjoy and tell me what you're thinking!\*\***

### \_Chapter 6\_

Souji drove as fast as he could through the streets, ignored any existing traffic rules and overtook the cars that drove too slow for his liking. He was never a safe driver and he had lost his driving license many times because of it, but thanks to Hijikata, he had got it back every time. While he drove, he looked many times back to Chizuru who laid lifeless on the back seat, unconscious and with a pale face. As he looked back for the tenth time, he cursed. He was much too slow and the hospital was far away. With gritted teeth, he drove more faster and ignored simply the traffic lights which showed red and dodged a collision with other cars in the last second.

More minutes passed where he raced over the street until he could see the logo of the \_Heart Hospital\_ beside the road. As the car halted, the two men left it quickly. While Saito walked around to the side where his partner was, Souji went to the back door to fetch Chizuru who passed out long ago. Was it because of the mix of pills she received from Goro or because of his driving style? No one would know. However, he lifted her up in his arms and shook her to wake her up.

"Oi Chizuru-chan. It's a very bad time for you to sleep now. Come on, wake up." With tired eyes, she looked up in his face which was still blurry. She did not know where she was or what she was doing with Okita, could she not remember what happened to her. \_What's going on\_, she wondered while she tried hard to regain her vision. It took her a while until she could see his face more clearly, as he continued.

"Listen, don't pass out again. And when we go in, I'll tell them you tried to kill yourself with many pills. So don't tell other

things than that when you're questioned or, more worse, the truth! When you don't do it..." He raised her head and whispered the last part in her ear. Her body stiffened by his last words and she tried to nod. With a content smile, he looked to Saito who had looked at the two silently before he pointed to the hospital.

"Let us go in or everything is wasted." Souji only rolled his eyes. "Hai hai~." They jogged to the entrance and opened the door. As they walked in, some curious eyes switched in their direction and remained on Chizuru who lost again her consciousness. "Help! We need help!" Souji shouted in the most worried tone he could manage. Immediately, some nurses ran in their direction and encircled the group.

"What happened to her?" asked one of them as another rolled a bed in their direction where Souji laid Chizuru gently down. In this moment, the actor in him awoke as tears rolled down his cheeks. "S-She has tried to kill herself with pills. P-Please you must save her!" The eyes of the nurse who asked widened abruptly as she looked to Chizuru and yelled. "We have to pump out her stomach immediately!" With this instruction, she rolled together with two other nurses the bed away while Souji and Saito followed. As they reached the door of the emergency room, they were stopped by a doctor.

"Are you relatives?" They only shook their head to avoid any more problems with their lie and the doctor sighed. "Then I can't let you pass. Please wait here." Souji nodded in agreement and sat himself on a chair while Saito did the same, waiting for the team to rescue Chizuru. For Souji, it did not matter if she died or lived, had he nothing to do with her. The only reason why he did it was because it was an instruction from Hijikata to protect the girl. Even if he did not know the reason, it did not interest him at all. He did what was demanded from him and everyone was happy with it.

Minutes passed in which Souji and Saito waited for the team while Souji got more and more impatiently. He had even started to play with his mobile-phone to kill some time, but no matter what he did, nothing worked. With a sigh, he stood up from his chair and began to walk up and down. After more time passed, he had enough and leaned his back against the next wall with folded arms. How long should this last, he wondered, as the door to the emergency room opened. Immediately, Souji walked in their direction to see how they drove the bed with Chizuru lying on it until it passed him. He wanted to follow her as he saw how Saito walked to the doctor who not allowed them to go in.

"How's her state, doc?" The man looked at him with a content smile. "Don't worry. She'll make it. It was good you brought her immediately here. However, I have some questions." Saito nodded. "I'll answer everything. Can my friend go to her?"

"Surely. She is now in the recovery room." With the agreement of the doctor, Saito nodded in Souji's direction and he followed Chizuru to the recovery room. As he walked through the floor, he could almost smell the scent of death which hung in the air. How he hated this smell. Memories of his past began to boil up in him, but he tried hard to suppress it. This was not the right time for it. As he arrived the recovery room, he let his gaze wander around until his eyes were fixed on her sleeping figure. Immediately, he walked to her side and checked her pulse to see that she was really alright. Then, he dared a closer look at her face. This time, she was not angry

about him or looked at him with this fearful big brown eyes.

No, she was peaceful.

It was the first time he saw her in this vulnerable state what he found very strange. He knew she was a woman who disliked it to be violable. She wanted to be strong even if he did not know the reason for it. This was why he turned his gaze away and took a chair that he placed next to her bed and waited for her to wake up. After some minutes, she opened her eyes.

\* \* \*

><p>The first thing she noticed as she awoke was that her body ached and she felt like she was drunk. Her eyes were heavy and about her stomach she did not want to think about. But all this pain could not eradicate the urge in her to open her eyes to see where she was. With much effort, she tried to force her eyes open which worked after some try. First her vision was blurry, but after a while, she could see more clear. The room she was in was white she could see from her lying position and the noises told her she was not alone. Was she in a hospital ? She was about to sit up to find it out as she saw a hand which hold her back. Confused, she looked at the hand that did not belonged to her and began to follow with her gaze the hand to its arm and then to the body. She gasped as she saw the owner of the hand.<p>

"O-Okita-san ?" He raised an eyebrow by her question and remained silent for a while until he spoke with a smile. "Surprised to see me, Chizuru-chan ?" She heard the dangerous edge in his voice. "N-No, not really. It was just..." Yeah what ? That she had wished it was her brother or father who sat on her hospital bed than him ? Or her friends Hideyoshi and Sen ? It was true. She had wished that anyone of them sat there. They were more better than Okita in her mind. But she could not overcome her inner self to say this aloud. Instead, she decided it was the best when she asked what occupied her.

"Can you tell me what happened ?" She should learn that it was a big mistake to ask him as she saw the shocked expression on his face. "Do you really not remember, Chizuru-chan ?" The only thing she did was shaking her head as he took her hand in his what confused her. Then, he leaned slowly forward to her ear. "Okita-san ?" With a seductive voice, he spoke. "We expect children~."

She chocked and screamed.

"What ?" In the next moment, the whole room fell silent and all eyes were trained on her and him. She felt how the heat arose in her cheeks and her breath got uneven alone by the thought of what happened. Seconds of an awkward silence passed until she heard the laugh of Okita. Confused, she looked at him and frowned. "What's so funny ?" She could see he had big problems to be serious again as he wiped away a single tear and looked at her with a grin. "Did you really believe what I said earlier ?"

Now, she was more confused.

"What do you mean by that ?" She could not understand what he was trying to say. With a deep sigh, he let go of her hand and set his hair. "I simply lied to you. We don't expect children." It took her



a while until she could understand what he meant. And with that, fury enveloped in her. "This was all a joke ?" He shrugged. "Sure. Did you really think I would sleep with you ?"

"Okita-san!" Red from anger and frustration, she simply turned her head in the other direction to not see him while she heard how he continued chuckling. "Come on, Chizuru-chan. This was just a little joke." She grumbled. "I hate people who lie." This was the moment where he stopped chuckling. "Are not you the one who lie to good friends ?" She paused and turned again to him. "I only do it because of you!"

He smiled.

"Good that we understand each other so well." She wanted to reply something as the door opened and the lilac haired man entered the room. The moment he spotted them, he walked to Okita's side.

"Are you alright, Yukimura-kun ?" Surprised by his kind question and that he knew her name, she nodded as he continued. "I hope that Souji did not say something bad to you." As she looked shortly to Okita, she saw that he smiled. "Hajime-kun, what're you thinking about me ? You know, I am always nice to our Chizuru-chan." She nearly laughed by his words, was this presumably the most worst lie he ever told. The man named Hajime seemed to know he was lying, but he simply ignored it as he turned his attention back to Chizuru.

"Yukimura-kun. The doctor said you have to stay for three days at the hospital. I hope this is okay with you." She frowned by his words and asked. "Can you tell me what happened ?" He looked shortly at Okita. "Have Souji not told you ?" She shook her head and he sighed. As he let his gaze wander around, he saw that in the room were too many witnesses which could overhear their conversation. "I am sorry, but I can't explain it to you at the moment. But you'll learn it soon." She nodded, even if she wanted to know it. This moment, Okita stood up from his chair and walked to his partner. "I think I am ready with this. Now, it's your turn to watch over her, Hajime-kun."

With a short wave, he left the room.

~xXx~

Days passed in which Chizuru had to stay at the hospital. During her stay, she had to speak with a psychologist because they thought she wanted to kill herself with the pills Goro had mixed her. She knew now the truth about what happened and did not know how she should handle with the truth. She liked Goro and was shocked about what he did to her, had she trusted him to the fullest. But what startled her the most was his cruel death. The moment as Saito explained her what happened, she remembered the scene in which both men killed him. Perhaps she had repressed her memory because it was too cruel in her mind ? She was sure she would never know.

However, she got regularly visits by her friends Hideyoshi and Sen who were actually concerned for her unlike Okita. To her dismay, he did come to watch her for several hours a day until Saito would arrive and took in his place. She had to admit that she liked him. He was silent and did not annoy her like a certain other person.

At the last day, she prepared herself for depart, glad that there was no Okita around this time as it was Saito's turn to watch over her. Like always, he spoke only a little with her but this did not bother her.

"Are you ready for depart ?" He asked her in his calm voice while he looked out the window. She took her things which Sen had brought her as she heard from her longer stay at the hospital and turned to Saito. "Hai."

"Then let's go."

With his words, the two left the room and walked to the entrance of the hospital where they were already awaited by Okita. As Chizuru saw him, her eyes widened in disbelief. \_What is he doing here\_, she asked herself. He was the last one she wanted to see. The moment he spotted the two, he pushed himself from the wall and walked to the group.

"Mornin' Chizuru-chan, Hajime-kun." She hesitated for some seconds before she answered. "Good Morning Okita-san." He smiled at her as she greeted him and stared at her as if he would expect something. But as it not appeared, he frowned which confused her. Nevertheless, Chizuru tried to act normal as they reached him. "Is everything ready, Souji ?" Saito asked Okita who nodded only with his grin whereupon Saito turned around to Chizuru.

"Souji will take you home." Without waiting for her response, he passed Okita and left the hospital. Chizuru's reaction was clearly as she choked and looked at the retreating back of Saito and then to Okita who returned her shocked stare with his innocent smile. Then, he took her hand in his and dragged her along with him. "Let's go, Chizuru-chan!"

Again, they stood in front of his motorbike. While Okita sat himself on his seat, Chizuru only stared at the vehicle, not willing to do the same. She knew when she did it, she had to cling herself on him which was something she wanted to avoid. After all, she hated this guy and did not want to give him the satisfaction he wanted to gain from her. No, she would only drive with a taxi. Okita seemed to notice her inner conflict as he turned his head in her direction. "What's up, Chizuru-chan ? Come on, we don't have the whole day."

"I am not driving with you on this motorbike." She would soon realize that she had underestimated Okita Souji as he simply stood up with a deep sigh and walked to her slowly. "You know, I don't have any problems to hurt you, Chizuru-chan." He came nearer and nearer until he stood in front of her and grabbed after her arm which he hold in an iron-like grip. Then, he looked her deep in her eyes as his own orbs turned to a deep shade of red. In the next moment, she felt the heat on her skin as he began to burn her arm and she tried to drew back, but his grip was too strong. She felt how her skin burned and her breath got more quickly. "Are you now willing to come with me ?" He asked with a smile. She closed her eyes in pain and nodded. Then, the heat disappeared from her skin and her breath normalized. Immediately, he let go of her and walked back to his vehicle while she followed. As she sat behind him, she circled her arms around his chest, still feeling the pain of the fire which left a red hand print on her arm she did not notice.

They reached after a while her apartment where she climbed down the vehicle while he did the same. Before she could reach for her bag, he took it and laid it around his shoulder and began to walk in the direction of the building. Now, her live ghosts awoke as she saw how he stood there waiting for her. After some hesitation, she followed and positioned herself behind him. "Okita-san ?" He looked at her with these bored green eyes. "Hm ?"

"Why are you...here with me ?" She did not know how she could describe it precisely that he wanted to come in with her, was this something she did not wanted. However, for him it was no problem as he simply shrugged. "It's my job to accompany you to your apartment. So I thought I might take you in than to let you go on yourself." She nodded. This sounded plausible for her. Nevertheless, this was something she had not expected. But she could not deny his offer. This was rude. So she decided it was the best when she allowed him to accompany her in her apartment.

With a short nod, she searched for her keys and opened the door. They climbed up the stairs until they stood in front of her flat. But this time as she tried to open the door, she felt how her hands shook. Calm down, she scolded herself. Think as if he was a normal person and not a murderer. After some time, she finally opened the door and entered. While Okita closed the door behind, Chizuru took her shoes in the shoe cabinet and her jacket on the wardrobe and Okita did the same. The moment they entered the living room, a shadow appeared and jumped in Chizurus arms. First, she stumbled back, but thanks to Okita who gave her some support, she did not fall to the ground. As she looked down, she saw her cat.

"Have you missed me ?" As response, the cat simply purred which made Chizuru laugh as she began to stroke over the fur before she let the cat down. Then, the cat left her and walked to Okita where she rubbed his leg and meowed while Chizuru froze. How would he react ? Would he hurt her ? However, all her fears did not occur as he simply stared at the cat for a moment before he knelt down and stroke her head what surprised Chizuru.

"She isn't normally trustful to strangers." Okita looked up while he still stroke the cat. "Is that so ?" While he spoke, he looked again to the cat which seemed to be happy to see him. With a short grunt, he stood up from his kneeling position and gave Chizuru her bag so their finger touched. Again, she felt the warmth which radiated from his fingers. It was again and again odd how many heat his body could produce. This was the first moment where she wondered whence he had his power.

"Okita-san ? Can I ask you something ?" The look he gave her showed her he had not expected such a question. To her luck, he simply nodded. "Yeah sure." She pressed her lips together as she thought about how she could pose her question. The moment she spoke out her words, the air seemed to freeze. "Where do you get your power with the fire ?" She saw how his beforehand relaxed gaze switched to a hard one as he looked at her with the same cold gaze he had shown her as she placed herself between him and his next victim. She thought he would hurt her again, but instead he simply turned around and clenched his fist.

"I think it's the best when I go for now." She nodded hesitantly in

agreement and even if he could not see it, he knew her answer. With a sad expression, she looked at his retreating back. In this moment, she wondered if everything had turned out different when she had not asked him about his power.

~xXx~

Chizuru looked out the window, regarded how the rain fell to the ground which tapped against the glass to announce its presence while her thoughts were still trained on a certain person. No matter what she did, the gaze Okita gave her was something which had burnt itself in her mind, refused to let her go. It was only hours ago, when she had thought Okita was a ruthless person with no feelings, but now she possessed another opinion as she saw the new emotion he showed to her.

Sadness.

This was something which took her by surprise. All his actions had shown her how regardless his fellows were to him, but now he was sad when he thought about the reason for his power. She wondered if he would ever tell her what happened. \_As if he would\_, told her her inner voice cynical. \_He doesn't trust you. \_While she continued thinking, she decided it was the best when she made herself tea to calm her nerves down. With this thought in mind, she walked to the kitchen and prepared some tea.

After some minutes, the tea was ready and she could take it back to the living room. As she entered, she noticed that her cat was nowhere to be seen. \_Perhaps she is already sleeping ? \_With this, she banished the thought and sat herself on her couch as suddenly, her mobile-phone began to ring. With a confused expression, she searched for it in her bag and took it out. It was strange for her to see it after such long time and what she had witnessed thanks to it. As she looked at the display, she saw it was Sen who called for her. Without hesitation, she pressed the acceptance button.

"O-Sen-chan?"

\_"Chizuru-chan! I've tried to call you many times. Are you at home now ?"\_ While Sen spoke, Chizuru looked at the clock which hung over the TV. It was past midnight. "Yes, I am home now. Okita-san accompanied me." She heard a sound at the other end of the line which was confusing her. Had she said something unacceptable ?  
"O-Sen-chan ? Is something wrong ?"

\_"No, it's nothing. I thought only that you and Okita-san don't get along well after what I've seen. But now he is taking you home ?"\_  
Now, she understood about what Sen was talking about. Okita was always mean to her and simply not cared about her feelings. The big question was, why he was taking her home ? In just this moment, she remembered his words. Had he not said something about it was his job to accompany her ? Her thoughts were interrupted as she heard again the voice of her friend.

\_"Chizuru-chan ? Is really everything alright with you ?"\_ She pressed her lips together before she spoke. "Hai, everything is alright." Again, there was a short pause before Sen continued. \_"Then do you come back to work tomorrow ?"\_ Chizuru thought about it for

several seconds before she nodded. "Yes, I'll come." Even if she could not see her friend, she could imagine that she smiled this moment.

"Good, because Hideyoshi is missing you badly and Okita needs someone who shows him his borders." This time, Chizuru could not hold back her laugh. "I see. So it's really important that I come back, right ?"

"Right." The two girls giggled before Chizuru heard how the bell rang. With a confused expression, she said her goodbyes to Sen before she stood up and walked to the door. As she opened it, her face paled.

"K-Kaoru-san ?"

## 8. Chapter 7

**\*\*Chapter 7 is up! It makes me happy to see how many people read this story, but I receive so few feedback... Please, I just want to know your thoughts so I can get better. I thank the ones who already left a review and the ones who will (hopefully) leave a review too. Enjoy and please tell me what you think!\*\***

### \_Chapter 7\_

Only one meter away stood he, wearing like always his black jacket and his black shoes he wore during his work as lawyer. He was a genius in this field she knew and he was good to read people by their body language. So she knew he would know it when she lied. She could only guess why he was here.

"Chizuru." He stared at her with these eyes which told her he was not pleased with her behavior, showed her that she had made a big mistake in his mind. She gulped. Even if she could show no fear in front of Okita, her brother was in another league. She forced a smile on her lips as she spoke.

"Kaoru-san, what a nice surprise to see you. May you come in ?" His face showed that he was not at all affected by her speech as he spoke. "Thanks, but I decline. I have no time and can handle this quickly." Then, a dark smile formed on his own lips as he continued. "I would be more interested where you have been the last three days, dear sister."

She tried hard to act normal as she heard his question. What should she say ? That Goro mixed her pills to kill her and that Okita and Saito killed him and saved her with it ? No, this was something she could not do. She knew which power Kaoru possessed and what he would do when he knew from this case. He would immediately act and arrest the two. Even if this would be good for her, she had no proof for their action. Nobody would believe that Goro was now a mass, no, this sounded too crazy. And she was sure they had removed all traces which connected them with Goro. Nobody would ever know that he was dead, like it was with the ash of the ones Okita fought nights ago. She thought convulsively about what she could say as an crazy idea popped up in her mind. With a deep breath, she replied.

"I was by my boyfriend." This was the only explanation she could

manage in this short time. But for Kaoru, it was not enough proof. "Your boyfriend ? I didn't know you have a boyfriend. Are you lying to me ?" It was clear he did not believe her a single word. "Yes, I have a boyfriend and no I am not lying to you, Kaoru-san." He thought about her words before again a dark smile graced his lips.

"Fine. Then I think it was no problem when you introduce us to your boyfriend soon, dear sister." His words sounded like laughter in her ear as he looked at her expectant, waiting for her response. Chizuru's eyes widened lightly as she heard his words.

"Introduce ?" She saw how his smile vanished. "Yes, why not ? You said, after all, you're not lying at me." She nodded awkwardly and saw how he patted her shoulder. "I have some things to take care of. See you." With his words, he stalked away, leaving her alone with her own thoughts.

~xXx~

At the next day, she drove with her car over the streets while many thoughts plagued her mind. Why in god's sake had she lied to her brother and told him about her not-existing boyfriend ? How could she manage this situation she was now in ? All of this questions circled in her mind, tugged at her strength and on her nerves. She knew that Kaoru was aware of her lie and that he only told her this to force the truth out of her. This was something she could not do. She knew what Okita would do when he find out that she had talked about it and she would do everything to avoid a massacre.

The only thing she could do was to fake a relationship with a male.

Alone this thought let her shudder. She was never in a relationship with a man and did not know how she should act in front of him when she wanted to pretend she was together with this man. And the other question was: Who should she ask ?

First, she thought of Hideyoshi. He was a good friend to her and she was sure he would help her. But there was the problem with their dispute. Had he already forgiven her ? If not, she was not so sure if he would do this for her. Then, her mind switched to Okita...and she shook her head violently. No, only over her dead corpse she would ask him. She knew he did not care about her and that he had no reason to help her. So he was no choice for her. She drove to the parking lot and parked her car.

With a deep sigh, she lowered her head and looked at the dashboard for some moments. She had to ask Hideyoshi if he would help her and hoped he agreed. If not, she had no other choice than to...she did not dare to think about this further as she exited the car and walked to the front door of the police station. As she entered the room of the office, she was greeted by the presence of her three team members who sat already behind their desk. The moment she came in, Sen and Hideyoshi raised their heads in her direction and exchanged quick glances Chizuru could not read. However, she hung her jacket on the wardrobe and walked afterwards to her desk where she found a note.

"\_We hope you feel better now. Sen and I are sorry about what happened to you and we hope you can forgive us how badly we treated

you in the past few days. Stay healthy in the future. Your team Kondo." \_

Chizuru felt how a single tear began to roll down her cheek as she finished reading the note. She was deeply affected by the words the two used and could not hold back a sob. Only moments later, she felt a hand on her shoulder and as she raised her head, she saw in Hideyoshi's face who looked at her with a serious expression. Behind him, she could see Sen who smiled at her.

"How have you been, Chizuru-chan ?" The young woman was not surprised at all by his question as she replied his gaze with a faint smile. "I am fine. Thanks." Then, Hideyoshi pushed the air out his lungs he had hold back due to his nervousness and spoke. "Are you sure you're fine ?" Surprised by his concern, she simply nodded. He let go of her shoulder and walked back to his desk where he sat down while Chizuru followed him with her gaze. Then, she saw a motion in her peripheral vision as Sen hugged her. Completely overwhelmed by her actions, the only thing she did was staring at Sen in not understanding.

"Please, never frighten me again."

After her words, Chizuru was aware of how dangerous this mix of drugs was Goro gave her. Before, she did not want to believe that her life could have ended this day when Okita and Saito had not done something. She knew she would be dead for now when both had not appeared. But it still bothered her that for her life, Goro had to die. Why they did not gave him the chance that the justice judge over his sins ? She knew that he would have ended in prison for what he have done to his wife and what he had tried to do with her.

So why ?

"Chizuru-chan ?" Her thoughts found an end as Sen let go of her and looked at her concerned. Had she spoken more than she had heard ? "Yes ?" Suddenly, Sen reached for her forehead and touched it with her hand. "When you're not feeling well..."

"No, no, I'm fine. Please don't worry." Chizuru forced a smile on her lips. How she hoped something happened that saved her from this odd situation. As if god had heard her pleas, he sent help in form of a brown-haired girl who walked just in this moment in their office. "Ano...Excuse me ?" All heads turned to the girl who stood lost in the room, not knowing what to do. Chizuru saw this as her opening as she excused herself from Sen and walked to the girl. "Can I help you with something ?"

"First of all, what's your name ? And why you're here ?" The girl took a sip from the tea she received from Sen before she answered Hideyoshi's question who stood behind Chizuru's chair while Okita and Sen sat behind their own desks. "My name is Akina Hasukara. I am here because someone is persecuting me." The room fell silent for a moment as everyone thought about her statement until Chizuru broke the silence. "Someone is following you ?" Again, she took a sip from her tea.

"Yes. It all started three months ago. I went home from school as I saw a black car which followed me to my house. The next days, the car did the same and I felt scared." Chizuru saw how her hands shook during her speech and how sweat formed on her forehead alone by this

thought. After a while, she continued. "Later, it wasn't alone a car that followed me as a person in a black suit exited the car every time I walked home and looked after me."

"How does this person look like ?"

This time, it was Sen who asked her. The girl took the now empty cup away and spoke. "I don't know. The only thing I saw was that he or she wore black clothes, a black hat and sunglasses." With a defeated grunt, Hideyoshi fell silent. Chizuru heard how someone searched for something until this person stood up and saw that it was Sen who walked with a paper and pencil to the girl. As she knelt down besides her, she gave her the things while the girl looked at it confused. With a warm smile, Sen asked.

"Can you draw this man for us ?"

After the girl had drawn the stalker and left the office, the four people in the room began with their work. They had now an identikit from which everyone had a copy that laid next to the each desk. Chizuru looked at the picture and thought about how she should start. Because the person had covered body and face, it would be difficult to find him or her. The only thing they could do was to interrogate in the immediate vicinity. The moment she wanted to start, Kondo entered the office.

"Good morning everyone. How's work doing ?" He looked around with a smile and get immediately an answer from Chizuru. "Everything is alright, Kondo-san:" As he looked at her, he frowned what confused Chizuru. Then, his gaze wandered to Okita who was busy with looking on his screen before his gaze wandered back to Chizuru. Then, he walked to her and stopped in front of her desk. "Should you not work in a team with your new partner like Sen and Hideyoshi ?" With this, he pointed at the group that worked together at this moment. Chizuru felt how her heart beat more vigorously. \_Don't say anything wrong!\_

"It's just that I...uhh...I..."\_ I don't want to work with a man who is a murderer and scares me off ? \_No, she could definitely not say the truth. She took a deep breath to calm down before she answered. "I think it's the most effective way when we first collect on our own information before we gather them." Kondo seemed to think about her answer before he nodded. "I see. But please don't exclude Okita-kun. He needs someone who shows him the right way." \_How right you're Kondo-san..."\_ "Hai Kondo-san."

Kondo gave her a last smile before he left.

Chizuru looked after him and thought about his last words. \_Show him the right way...even if Kondo did not know the truth, he seemed to know that Okita did not walk on the right path. This was something what surprised her. However, it was not easy to do what he demanded from her. How should she convince him that killing is wrong when he did it with a smile on his face ? Or what could she do so he trusted her so she could learn more about him ? All these questions tortured her, but she had made a quick decision.

She would learn to handle him.

With a determined expression, she stood up from her chair and walked



to his desk. He did not even look up as she waited for a reaction for him. After a while, it was enough for her. "Okita-san ?" Again, he did not look at her as he gazed banned at his screen. But to her surprise, he answered. "What's wrong, Chizuru-chan?" She tried hard to calm down her nerves, remembered she at this moment the blood which hung on his body after he killed those men from the special force. Or how he smiled at her after he killed Goro. It was not a friendly smile, no, it was a crazy one.

Chizuru felt how her breath got heavier and heavier and how her body began to shook. \_I can't do this, \_she thought. In the next moment, he raised his head and she looked directly in his jade green orbs. But the picture changed quickly as she saw how the green changed to blood red. \_No! \_She felt how her legs gave in and she felt to her knees. Tears began to form in her eyes as she saw all the last events in her mind again and again. She was so bewildered she did not even hear the sound of a moving chair and hectic footsteps approaching her.

"Chizuru-chan!" Then, she felt a touch on her shoulder. In hope it would be Sen or Hideyoshi, she raised her head to see Okita who stared at her annoyed. Only moments later, she heard the voice of Sen. "Is everything alright with you, Chizuru-chan ?" \_No, nothing is alright\_, she thought as she replied his gaze. She had now not the strength to play the strong woman. But as she heard what Okita said next, her eyes widened.

"I think it's the best when I take her home." Sen hesitated for a moment, but after some seconds she nodded while Hideyoshi stared at him suspicious. "Would it not be better when \_I\_ take her home ?" Chizuru did not know why, but she had the feeling Okita would do something bad when she did not do something. "No, this is alright." Taken aback by surprise, Hideyoshi clenched his fist to suppress a dry comment and nodded. "When this is your wish."

Okita stood up from his kneeling position and lifted Chizuru roughly on her arm before he carried her again in bridal style out the room whereas Hideyoshi and Sen looked after them. Chizuru felt how she get more and more tired. She had hardly slept the last days. But before she could close her eyes, she heard Okita's voice.

"Don't sleep. We have to talk."

Confused by his words, she looked up to see his blank face staring into the distance. He wanted to talk with her ? Chizuru wondered about what. She had nothing to say. They reached quickly the exit and left the station. While he carried her to his motorbike which stood not so far away, she thought about what he wanted to talk. Suddenly, he let go off her and positioned her on the motorbike before he took place behind her. Again, she was confused about his actions as he grabbed her with his hand and pushed her nearer his warm body. After his doings, he started the vehicle and left the parking lot.

"Why did you break down." His low voice echoed behind her as they drove for some seconds. In the meanwhile, she thought about her answer. Should she say him the truth ? One feeling told her it was the best not to lie. "Because I... remembered the last events in which you killed." He sighed. "Only because of that ?" Now, she frowned.

"What do you mean with \_only because of that\_ ?" He fell silent for a short moment before he answered her question. "Because killing is nothing special for me. It's routine."

"Routine ?" She was shocked, was this something she had not expected. But for him, it seemed to be normal as he simply accelerated his speed. "I kill since years, Chizuru-chan. For me it's the same like brushing my teeth." By his words, she shuddered. In the next moment, they halted in front of a traffic light. "But you know that killing is wrong, right ?" Now, he did something what did not fit the situation in her mind as he started to laugh.

"Chizuru-chan. You're really funny. Do you really represent the opinion that killing is bad ?" She hesitated. She was unsure what to say when he made fun of her. But she did not want to put up with this as she raised her voice. "Yes, because this is the truth. There're other options to resolve a conflict."

"What would that be ?" For a short moment, Chizuru thought about his question. "For example, to simply talk with the other person and convince him that his behavior was bad and take him to the police." Again, Okita laughed by her answer as in the same moment, he continued to drive over the crossroad. "To talk ? My my Chizuru-chan. You really don't know how the world works."

"What do you mean ?" Okita only shook his head. "I think because you're now involved with me, you will learn it soon." His last words had some sort of melancholy as he stared over her head at the street. Even if she did not understand him at the moment, she was sure she would soon.

\* \* \*

><p>After more minutes passed, they reached their destination. Souji was the first one who left the vehicle before he stretched his hand out for Chizuru. With a surprised expression on her face, she took his hand in hers. He was about to carry her again as she shook her head.<p>

"No, this isn't necessary. I can walk." With a simple shrug, Souji let go of her hand and began to walk in the direction of the apartment complex while she followed. He had to admit that he liked this neighborhood, was it idyllic at this place. But nevertheless, he was not here for fun. No, he was here to fulfill his duty. And for this, he had to kill and could not resolve his problems with talking like the girl said earlier. This was a very stupid thought in his mind.

He knew the world was a cruel place where the weak died and the strong ones ruled. This was reality he had to learn very early as he thought back. Even if his life changed thanks to his friends, it was not as good as he hoped for. But he had not the right to complain, could it be more worse.

They entered the building and reached after a while her door. Souji was about to turn around to return to work as he heard Chizuru's next words. "Please, stay for a while. I haven't thanked you for bringing me home."

More than surprised about her statement, he simply stared at her with

a gaze that told her how little he trusted her. She was for him nothing more than a girl he had to take care of because Hijikata told him so. For this reason, to keep her away as far as possible from him, he had tried to scare her off, but she seemed not to react how he hoped. At first, his plan seemed to work, but now it was as if she had made the decision to get along with him what confused him. Why did she do this ? Did she not know who he was ? Or what he was capable of ? Shaking his head to banish these thoughts, he decided it was the best when he declined.

But everything changed as they heard how the door beside her flat opened and another Chizuru walked in. He simply frowned by this sight from another Chizuru in a black suit and looked again to the Chizuru to see that he was not going mad. But to his dismay, there was again Chizuru. What was going on ?

"Chizuru."

As he heard the voice, he could say this was not a girl. No, it had to be a boy. Were they twins ? His thoughts were interrupted as he saw how Chizuru stiffened as she looked at the boy who shared her face.

"Kaoru-san..." The other male ignored him completely as he looked at her demanding. "What are you doing here at this time ? You should be at work." He saw how she bit her bottom lip. This time, she was not strong, no, it seemed to him that her brother had the full control over her. "This is..." He did not know why, but suddenly he had the strong urge to say something than to stay useless around.

"She felt sick and I took her home." Surprised that he helped her, Chizuru looked up at him. This time, Kaoru also looked at him with a penetrating gaze. "Who are you ? And what business do you have with her ?" Souji smiled. It was a false smile.

"My name is Okita Fujiwara and I am her partner." He saw from his peripheral vision that Chizuru's face did not change because she did not know his true first name. He was more than glad about this fact. Kaoru furrowed his brows and turned to Chizuru. "Was not this Hideyoshi guy your partner ?" She shook her head. "Kondo switched the teams."

"I see."

Then, an idea popped up in his mind as he looked at Souji and his face darkened. "Is he the one where you were the last three days ?" He saw how Chizuru tried to catch her breath by his question while Souji was more than confused, but he showed it not to Chizuru's luck. However, Chizuru looked for a short moment to him before she drew her attention back to her brother. "Hai..." Souji's brows narrowed by her words. About what they were talking about ? Then, a grim smile formed on Kaoru's lips as he continued.

"So he is your boyfriend ?" \_Boyfriend ?\_ Now, Souji was more confused than before as he looked expectant to Chizuru who seemed to quarrel with herself. While more seconds passed, Souji tried hard to figure out about what they were talking about. Then, he knew it. \_So she told her brother she was by her boyfriend than to speak the truth. \_Even if he could not believe it himself, he was relieved she had not told him the truth. It would be wide more difficult to

explain a brother why she was at the hospital than to say she was by her boyfriend.

A devilish grin appeared on his face as a new idea formed on his mind. Hijikata had not said to him he could not have some fun for himself when he had to watch a girl. With a satisfied grin, he took Chizuru by her shoulder and pulled her to his side. Before Kaoru could say something, he spoke out his next words.

"You've caught us. Yes, we're together."

\* \* \*

><p>Chizuru felt how her head burnt like fire as she heard his words and felt his warm touch. What was he saying ? She nearly cried out as she saw the stunned expression from her brothers face. This meant nothing good when he looked at her this way she knew. But she could not tell him the truth. So it was her turn to play along with Okita, even if she would scold him for it later. She forced a smile on her face as she spoke.<p>

"He's right. We're a couple."

With this, she replied his touch, even if it felt strange to touch him this way. He was after all a murderer and she hated him, right ? Nevertheless, Kaoru still stared at the two before a blank expression covered his face.

"I see. So my dear sister has a boyfriend." With a last glance he shot to Okita who returned this with a smile, Kaoru retreated back to his own apartment. After he was gone, Chizuru took a deep breath before she let go off Okita. Then, she turned her face in his direction. "Why did you do this ?" Okita looked down at her with these green eyes before a cold smile graced his lips. "I saved your ass. Now you owe me something. I'll rely on it in the future."

With his words, he turned around and left the building.

## 9. Chapter 8

\*\*Again, a new chapter is up. Thank you again for the ones who reviewed, favorited and followed. Enjoy and tell me what you're thinking!\*\*

### \_Chapter 8\_

Again, Chizuru read the file of Akina's former boyfriend and sighed as she found nothing which could guide her to the solution of the case. He possessed nothing what made him in any way suspicious. No, it was more the contrary. He was a man who could be blame for nothing in the past. But this did not mean that he was not the culprit. While she continued her search, she heard a sound that came from Okita's direction which broke the silence between the two. Sen and Hideyoshi were driven to the family of Akina to interrogate them. It was not that she liked it to be alone with this man, but because he was her partner, she had no other choice than to get along with him. This was the reason why she had given him a task he should do while she checked on her former boyfriend.

Now, Chizuru decided it was time to see if he was ready.

She stood up from her chair and walked in his direction as she heard again this noise what confused her. It sounded like a loud bang and as if something was broken. Then, she saw that Okita looked banned at his screen like he did the day before. What is he doing, she asked herself as she came to a halt in front of his desk.

"Okita-san ? Are you ready with your work?" She saw how his jaw twitched a little. "No, not yet." In the next moment, he moved his fingers quickly over the keyboard as if his life would depend on it. Chizuru decided she should ask further. "And when are you ready ?" He never let his eyes from the screen as he answered. "In one minute." With a nod, Chizuru waited patiently for him to finish. However, the minute was quickly over and Okita sank back in his chair with a satisfied grin.

"IÂ've won."

Now, Chizuru frowned. Why said he he won when he looked for information ? She could not imagine that he saw in this doing something challenging like in a game. With a suspicious expression on her face, she rounded the table and looked on his screen and stared. She had expected everything but not a shooting game! Okita seemed to feel her shock as he simply turned in his chair and grinned what let the anger arise in her.

"Okita-san! I said you should look for information and not play a game!" The grin did not vanish from his face as he pouted. "Chizuru-chan is very mean~. IÂ've collected information in battle. Isn't this enough ?" She only stared at him with an angry glare, forgetting who he was and what could he do. "But youÂ've forgotten your job!" OkitaÂ's eyes widened lightly as if he would realize something, before he sighed defeated.

"Hai, Hai." A satisfied smile graced her lips as she saw that he had understood what she meant. Then, she simply gave him a paper which he took with a raised eyebrow. "What is this ?" She sighed again. "IÂ've checked her former boyfriend. It seems that he has nothing to do with the stalker." Okita looked with a bored glare at the paper before he asked. "What is with her family and her immediate vicinity ?"

"Sen and Hideyoshi are checking it. You would know when you had listened." He only rolled his eyes by her comment before he stood up from his chair and walked to the door while she followed his doings with her eyes. "What are you doing Okita-san ?" He reached for his jacket before he turned his head in her direction. "I am going to check on her former boyfriend."

As she heard his words, she could only imagine that it would be no good when she let him go by himself. He was a man who did not shrink back to hurt or kill a person, so she decided it was the best when she followed him. She walked to his side and took her own jacket before she halted in front of him whereas he looked down at her with his green eyes.

"IÂ'll come with you." He only raised his eyebrow in confusion before he seemed to know why she wanted to follow him and a grin formed on his lips. "Scared to be without me?" She rolled her eyes in annoyance which let him laugh before he turned around and left together with

her the office.

~xxx~

They drove with her car to the flat of Akina's former boyfriend in silence. There was nothing she wanted to tell him. Generally, there were moments when she had big problems to talk or even look to him without thinking back to the things she had witnessed. She knew that he was capable of killing her in an instant, but to her surprise, he did not use again his power against her. Instead, he threatened her with the death or the death of her friends.

And this was something what she had to prevent.

After thirty minutes, they reached their destination. As Chizuru and Okita left the car, they saw a huge building standing in front of them. It was held in warm colors like orange and red with many windows and a balcony for each apartment. They did not let much time waste and walked purposefully to the front door where Okita rang the bell. After a minute, a voice could be heard.

"\_Yeah ?"\_ Chizuru let not much time pass as she answered.  
"Juroi-san. We are from the police. May we come in ?" A short pause could be heard before the man raised his voice again. "\_Is something happened ?" \_

"We will speak with you about it as soon as we are in." The man seemed to agree with her proposal as the door opened and they climbed together up the stairs until they reached the third floor. There they were greeted by a black-haired man with grey eyes who looked at them with a curious expression while his hands rested in his pocket. As they reached him, the only thing he did was going back in his flat whereas they followed him.

"Welcome in my modest apartment." He spoke as they reached the living room where he let himself fall on his couch before he grabbed for a bottle of beer that stood on the desk in front of him and sipped on it. Chizuru wrinkled her nose as she smelled an unpleasant scent which hung in the air and as she looked around, she saw the cause of it in form of a dead dog. Thoughts of compassion for the animal flooded her mind and as if he had heard her thoughts, he commented.

"This is or better was my dog Kumilo. He died some weeks ago, but I didn't have the time to carry him away."

After his words, he took another sip from his beer and sighed satisfied as if he had climbed up a mountain or did something equally great. Chizuru had big problems to concentrate on the current case, was the stench too penetrative to ignore it. But it seemed that Okita could do it as he simply leaned his back against the wall and folded his arms before he spoke.

"We're here to ask you some questions about Akina Hasukara." Immediately, the atmosphere changed as the man named Juroi clawed his hand around the bottle of beer. "What is with Aki ? I don't have any business with her anymore." His sinister voice told them they had hit a weak point from him but it brought them not further in this case. This time, it was Chizuru who replied his statement. "We just want to know some things from you. After it, we go." The man seemed to think

about her offer as he simply shrugged. "Alright. What do you want to know ?"

"Where were you from the third to the sixteenth June at 2 pm ?" Juroi thought about it for a short time. "I was at home after I lost my job."

"Can someone testify ?" The man shook his head in annoyance. "Of course not. I live alone." Chizuru noted his statement before she continued. "Do you know any people who want to hurt her or who harassed her in the past ?" He thought about her question for a moment before he sighed. "Well you know, there was something which I did not even told her as we were together. I had always the feeling someone is watching us when we were out. But when I looked around, there was nobody."

Chizuru noted his statement and looked at the paper for a while. She had now enough information from him and knew she could go with it. As she looked at Okita, she saw that he let his gaze wander around with a bored expression. It seemed he was not interested in the current case. Quickly, she guided her attention back to Juroi who waited for more questions. With a faint smile, she stood up from the couch and bowed.

"Thank you for taking the time." He only shook his head. "No problem Miss..." Just this moment, he noticed that he did not know her name what was something that embarrassed Chizuru. How could she forget such a simple manner ? "Yukimura Chizuru. And this is Okita Fujiwara."

The other man nodded only before his eyes widened lightly.

"Are you the daughter of Yukimura Kodo, this rich bigwig ?" Even if she did not like it how he called her father, she nodded. Then, a grin formed on Juroi's lips as he touched her on her shoulder and pulled her to his chest. "You know, when you have interest-" He could not finish his sentence as he felt how Okita took his hand he laid on Chizuru's shoulder and looked at him with a too friendly smile. "I think Chizuru-chan and I go for now." With his words, he dragged a confused Chizuru out of the apartment and walked with her to the car.

\* \* \*

><p>During their drive to the station, nobody spoke a word. It was this kind of silence which bothered Souji, was he not a man who liked it when someone ignored him. He caught himself how he looked many times to her from his peripheral vision while he pretended to look into the distance, only to see how her eyes were trained stubbornly on the traffic. To distribute his boredom, he began to tap with his finger on the dashboard while he looked at the passing cars. After a while, it was enough for Chizuru.<p>

"Can you please be silent for a while ?" A winning grin formed on his lips. "I am surprised that you can talk." Now, he looked openly at her and saw how she frowned before she fell silent again what let him sigh as the boredom came back to him. His action seemed to have brought him nothing. This meant he had to bring the big guns in as he had a new idea about what he could speak with her.

"Oi Chizuru-chan."

To his regret, she did not react. Instead, she speed up the car. But this did not prevent him from stopping as he stretched out his hand and touched her on her naked knee. Now, the wished reaction came as he saw how her body stiffened and she clutched the steering wheel but to his surprise, she said nothing to it. An amused smile appeared on his lips as he began to stroke her knee which sent shivers down her spin but she remained brave. Slowly, this game began to be more interesting. He was one of the people who never gave up quickly. He leaned forward to her so he could reach her ear and whispered.

"Chizuru-chan. It's very important." He felt how his hot breath grazed her ear and let her shudder before she raised her voice. "What is it ?" A devilish smile formed on his lips as he continued. "You said we were a pair to your brother. Are you not interested to try it out ?" While he spoke, his hand wandered south which brought her to choke. "O-Okita-san...d-don't..."

"Don't what ?" It was visibly hard for her to remain calm as she tried to focus on the traffic to not make a crash what entertained him. Then, she took a deep breath to calm down her nerves and spoke. "Don't touch me, Okita-san." This time, the smile disappeared from his lips. "Was it not you who started this story ?" Now, she looked at him with an angry glare.

"I had no other choice! My brother asked me where I was and I could not tell him the truth." He simply shrugged it off and leaned back in his seat with folded arms. "Not my problem."

"Okita-san!" It was clear how upset she was about him, but this was none of his business. The only thing he had to do was watching her and her doings, not helping her in her own affairs. This was something she had to handle on her own. After all, he was not her baby-sitter. The rest of the car drive was silent as no one tried to start a conversation until they reached the station.

As they walked in, they could already see Sen and Hideyoshi who talked at this very moment, presumably about the current case. As he walked lazily to his desk and let himself plop on his chair, he noticed that Chizuru stared at the pair for a long time before she turned her gaze away and walked slowly to her own desk.

"Oi Okita."

As he heard the voice, he turned his head in the direction where he suspected the source of it and saw this blue haired guy named Hideyoshi standing in front of him. The moment he saw him, an unnerved expression graced for several seconds his face as he remembered how pejoratively he spoke about him. One thing was sure: He did not like this guy. But he caught himself quickly and covered up his bad mood with a false smile like he always did. "What's up ?"

"Do you know now more about the stalker we are looking for." Souji nodded. "Her former boyfriend told us he noticed someone was following as they were together." Hideyoshi seemed to think about his words as he looked shortly to Sen who looked at him expectant, before he nodded. Sen replied the nod and walked in their direction with a



file that she gave to Souji. He did not read it, he only looked to the two to wait for a explanation which Sen gave him.

"How you surely know, we drove to her family and interrogated them. They told us that Akina was very quiet and pensive in the last weeks about something they could not figure out and that she looked constantly around as if she would expect there was someone." Souji frowned. "So you think they have nothing to do with the stalker?" Sen only nodded by his question. "And what do you think about her boyfriend?" Just as Souji wanted to answer her question, Chizuru stepped in with a coffee in hands.

"We think that he is also guiltless."

Hideyoshi looked at her before he sighed. "This means we don't have a person who could be the culprit." The room fell silent in the next moment as everyone thought about what they could do as an idea popped up in Souji's mind. He thought that perhaps this could guide them to the stalker. He folded his arms in front of his chest.

"What about if we observe her and hope that the stalker appear again?" Everyone looked surprised to Souji, had no one expected to hear something from him as Hideyoshi scratched his head. "Even if I don't like to admit, but this idea could really help us." The two girls looked at themselves before they nodded in Hideyoshi's direction in agreement while he let his gaze wander to everyone. "Then it's decided. We will observe her and see if the stalker appears again."

\* \* \*

><p>Days later, the observation of Akina Hasukara started with Chizuru and Okita who sat in Chizuru's car and waited patiently in front of her school for her to come out. During this time, they did not speak a word. About what should they talk when Chizuru did not wish him to be too near her? She remembered all the times where he threatened or touched her with his hands who killed many times and decided it was the best when she simply ignored him. This was definitely the best thing she could do. But to her regret, Okita made it not easy to her.<p>

"How boring." He murmured as he sighed for the tenth time and began to tap on the dashboard like he did the last time when they drove. This was also the time where he harassed her with his touch on her knee what brought her nearly to make a crash. She could not describe her thoughts at this moment, but one thing was sure: She did not want that he did it again. So she made not the mistake to speak with him again.

\_Ignore him simply\_, she told herself many times while she looked straightforwardly at the gate of the school. But she would learn soon that she had underestimated Okita as he spoke.

"Chizuru-chan. It's so boring. Let's do something."

He nearly whined by his words as he looked at his partner who tried hard not to look at him. He was a murderer and she did not want to be involved with him. In her mind, he was nothing more than a criminal who had to be sentenced. But to her regret, no one could do this because of his power. She knew what he was capable of and this was

something what bothered her. How could the citizens be safe when a man like him was wandering around ? Her thoughts were interrupted as she felt a tap on her shoulder. With an annoyed expression on her face, she turned her head in his direction to see him looking at her with an undefinable gaze.

"It's not nice to ignore me, Chizuru-chan." His voice was low as he spoke and possessed a dangerous touch, showed how serious he meant his words. Chizuru felt how her body began to shoo by his words, even if she tried hard to suppress it. She did not want to be weak in front of this man, but because she knew who he was, she could not suppress the fear from him. As he saw the reaction from her, a satisfied smile plastered his face. He opened his mouth to say something when Chizuru interrupted him.

"There she is."

Confused, Okita followed her gaze and saw the girl named Akina walking together with two friends out the gate with an anxious expression on her face. It was clear that she feared to see the stalker again, but this time, Okita and Chizuru were by her side to protect her. They saw how she went with two other girls along the street, looking around to see if the stalker was near. With alert eyes, she followed every step of the girl while Okita searched for the stalker. But to their surprise, there was no suspicious person.

As Akina spotted the two, she smiled weakly to them and seemed to feel stronger than before as she knew that she was not alone. Suddenly, a black car appeared out of nowhere and drove very near to the girls. As it halted next to the three girls, Chizuru frowned. She just wanted to leave the car to see what was going on as Okita hold her back on her wrist.

"Don't go." He demanded.

With a confused expression, Chizuru did what he wanted and remained in the car as they suddenly heard a scream. And then, the black car drove away with full speed. As they looked to the group of girls, they saw that Akina was missing. Okita reacted quickly and shouted.

"Follow the car. \*\*Now\*\*!"

First, Chizuru hesitated but as she was aware of the situation, she did what he demanded from her and left the parking lot to chase after the black car. They drove very quickly over the street, even if Chizuru tried to maintain a safe distance so the driver did not notice them following him. However, the car drove over more and more crossroads or turned a corner until they reached a small abandoned apartment complex.

There, the car halted and a black dressed man left together with Akina the car.

Chizuru did the same and parked the car before she left quickly the car together with Okita and followed the man who dragged Akina with him. After a while, Okita was tired of hiding and took his service weapon and shot in the air. This brought the attention of the stalker to him who turned around. Chizuru and Okita walked closer until they

stood ten meter away from their target while Akina looked at them with fear.

"Please help me!" She screamed.

The man seemed to be unaffected by her screams as he hold her tighter to his body and looked with sharp eyes, which they could not see due to the sunglasses he wore, to Okita and Chizuru.

"Who are you ?" He asked in a calm manner. While he spoke, Chizuru looked to Akina to see if she was okay. After she insured herself, she took her service weapon in hands and directed it in the direction of the stalker. "Give up and let the girl go!" The man only laughed by her words. "I know that you are not allowed to shot at me, girl. Besides..." Suddenly, he put out a knife and hold it on the throat of the girl.

"...when you don't let me go, she'll die."

This was the moment where Chizuru lowered her weapon. She knew she could not do something against him when he threatened the hostage. It was a rule to try to save the hostage to any price. She saw how the man smiled pleasant by her doings, but as he let his gaze wander to Okita, he saw that he did not lower his weapon.

"Do it or she'll die." With this, he pressed the knife against her throat so blood left the wound and Akina began to cry. Chizuru also looked at Okita confused before she whispered to him. "Okita-san. Please do what he demands." To her surprise, Okita shook his head with a serious expression. "Do you really want that this man escapes with the hostage ?"

Naturally, she shook her head, but what could they do ? The rules said they had to save the hostage, but when the hostage is threatened by the abductor, it was not allowed to them to shoot. So what should they do ? To her surprise, Okita hold still his weapon in the direction of the stalker before his body stiffened and a winning grin formed on his lips. Then, he shot the stalker in the shoulder. The man cried out in pain and raised his knife in anger to stab the hostage as a too fast motion caught his eyes and his body was pushed away roughly from his spot.

Then, Chizuru's eyes widened.

Not so far away stood a boy with long brown hair and green-blue eyes who hold the girl named Akina in his arms. He wore the same black uniform like Okita did the last time as he saved her together with Saito. Then, he moved again too fast for Chizurus eyes and halted next to them while Chizuru looked at him stunned. She wondered who he was as Okita looked at him with a mild smile.

"Good job, \_Heisuke\_." The brown-haired male only managed a grin as he still hold Akina save in his arms who fell unconscious. "No problem. But how I see you have some problems by doing your job." Okita rolled his eyes before he shook his head while his grin widened. "No more. Thanks to you I can act freely." With his words, he walked slowly in the direction of the stalker while Chizuru looked after him confused, not knowing what he was up to do. She was about to walk nearer as she felt the hand of the boy named Heisuke on her shoulder. As their gazes met, she knew something was wrong.

"I advise you not to look. It's not a pretty sight." A frown formed on her face by his words. "What do you mean?" Heisuke turned his gaze away in the direction where she suspected Okita before he looked again at her. "It's simply not good for a girl to see such things." Slowly, she had a guess what was going on and that was something she did not want to accept. He wants to kill again, this thought shot through her head as she looked in the direction where Okita was as she noticed that the stalker hold his knife in the direction of him.

"W-When you come too near I'll kill you!" He screamed in fear while he waved with the knife threatening. But this was something which did not scared Okita off. With a too friendly smile, he stopped in front of the man. "Try it if you can." In the next moment, the time seemed to stop as the man upswing the knife and hit with it Okita's body who froze while Chizuru screamed.

"Okita-san!"

Blood dropped to the ground from the fresh wound Okita's but to Chizuru's surprise he did not fall to the ground. Instead, he looked down to his fatal wound and sighed. "Jez, this means I have to buy a new jacket. How troublesome." Then, he grabbed after the knife and pulled it out, looking at it with interest while the stalker gazed at him in shock. "W-Who the hell are you?" Okita smiled before he threw the knife away and raised his hand.

"I am your worst nightmare."

He reached for the man to burn him down as Chizuru started running in his direction. She had to stop him no matter what it costs her. Only three meters separated her from him as suddenly, a new person appeared. A man with short red hair and amber eyes which remembered her of Hideyoshi, stood in front of her and hold her back. With a soft voice, he spoke.

"Please stay and don't interrupt him by his work."

"But-" Chizuru wanted to argue with him as she heard another voice. "He's right kid. Stay." Then, she felt a big hand on her head and looked to the side to see a brown-haired man with azure blue eyes and a friendly smile. Before she could ask, he spoke. "He is just doing his job. It would be dangerous for you when you do something stupid."

"But it's not right to kill!" Her words seemed to impress the three men as all of them looked at her. It was the first time that someone said such words to them. But the situation ended before it begun as she heard a scream. Quickly, she broke away from the grip of the red-haired man and saw how the stalker burnt while Okita stood calmly in front of him, looking nearly bored.

Her eyes were for a short time fixed on Okita's back as she remembered the day where she met him. It was a similar situation she was in as he killed all the men, but this time he was killing the stalker. Her eyes wandered quickly to the man who turned to ash, regretting she could not save his life. Then, she sank to her knees, saw how Okita turned around and looked at her with these red eyes she hated so much while his white hair fluttered in the wind. As he began

to walk in her direction, a silent tear left her right eye and she wondered why she could not even save a single life from this monster.

## 10. Chapter 9

**\*\*Chapter 9 is out! Enjoy and tell me your opinion!\*\***

\_Chapter 9\_

"\_Why ?" \_

\_She asked him in a broken voice as she clawed her hands in the earth with gritted teeth, looking in his bloody red eyes which radiated bleakness, where warmth had no place and the death ruled. While tears ran down her flushed cheeks, the only thing he did was looking down at her apathetic with these eyes as if all the things which happened some minutes ago did not affect him. As she noticed that, she stood up from her kneeling position while she took something from the ash, which laid not so far away, and positioned herself with it in front of him.\_

"\_Why he had to die ?"\_

\_He closed his eyes for a short moment while her body began to shake from suppressed anger and despair. As he opened his eyes again, they were green and his white hair changed back to brown. "Because it's my job." His blunt statement brought her to let the ash slip slowly from her hands. She laid her clenched fists on his chest while her body shook more violently.\_

"\_Only because of this ? Only because it's your job you killed him ?" During her speech, she looked him directly in his eyes to see his cool gaze looking down at her, showing no reaction he had even heard her. She felt how more and more tears left her eyes and her heart ached as she began to sob, clinging her hands in his jacket while he watched all her doings with a stoic expression.\_

"\_Chizuru-chan, it's enough."\_

\_She heard the voice of the red-haired man who patted her head to calm her down. But nothing what he would do did matter at this moment. Because of her, this man was dead and she could do nothing to bring him back to life. While more tears ran down her cheeks, she felt how her legs had not the strength left to hold her upright and she sank to her knees.\_

"\_Oi Chizuru!" She heard the voice of the man with short brown hair and ocean blue eyes who tried to prevent her from hitting the ground by holding her shoulder to gave her some support. Then, the boy with long brown hair spoke. "What did you do to her ?"\_

"\_I did nothing. Just take her home." With his words, Okita looked for a single moment back to her before he turned around while the boy raised again his voice. "What the-" But he was interrupted by the man with red hair. "Heisuke, calm down. He is right. We should just take her home." With one last look to her, he turned around and left the scene. Then, she felt how she was hove from the ground and laid in the arms of the man with blue eyes. "Sano, we take your

car."\_

"\_Alright, let's go Shinpachi. Heisuke, take the other girl with you." The boy nodded and ran to Akina who still laid on the ground before the three men walked to a dark-blue car where they laid down the two girls and entered it too. As the car started to drive, she looked out the window while the picture of \_\*\*him\*\*\_ appeared in her mind. She closed her eyes pained while another tear left her eye.\_

\_How she hated this man.\_

\* \* \*

><p>"What do you mean with the stalker is <em>gone<em>  
?"

Hideyoshi's outraged voice could be hear in the office as he questioned Chizuru's statement about the man who stalked Akina Hasukara for several months. It was their job to catch the culprit and not to let him go so easily what happened seemingly when he believed what Chizuru told him. After what she said, the stalker left the city and is missing since then. This was something he could not accept. No, he wanted to arrest the man who did this to Akina and not tell her that he was at-foot. But to his regret, everything indicated that she was right.

"I said it before. He escaped."

Just this time, he noticed the emptiness in her eyes and her hollow voice. This was not the Chizuru he knew. He looked closer at her and saw that something was different. Normally, she would do everything to catch the culprit and not give up so easily, but this time she just said it was over what confused him. Is something happened with her during his absence ? He decided it was the best when he find it out on his own as he continued.

"But this does not explain why you had the chance to get Akina back from him while he could escape!" During his speech, he raised his hands to emphasize his words, with no effect on her as she replied. "He was too quick for us, Hideyoshi. We had no chance against him. Accept it." Again, her voice was hollow as she spoke before she turned her head to the side to avoid a direct look at him. He could not explain why, but he had the feeling she was hiding something from him. Even if he had no proof, he knew his theory had to be true. She was simply not the type of girl who would give up so easily.

Perhaps she knew something he did not know ?

His thoughts were interrupted as Okita entered the room who let his gaze wander around. The moment he spotted them, he walked in their direction. "Mornin'." As he raised his voice, Hideyoshi noticed that Chizuru's body stiffened before she turned her head to where he was. Then, her face twitched a little before she spoke with a smile on her face. "Good Morning Okita-san." The man smiled back before he looked at Hideyoshi whose eyes were narrowed.

"You're again too late, Okita." He shrugged simply. "I got lost." Hideyoshi only looked at him, not believing a single word that left his mouth. He was not sure if he was ever telling the truth. However,

as he saw a movement in his peripheral vision, he looked to the person and saw how Chizuru walked to Okita and said to him something he could not understand, was he too far away to hear them. He thought for a moment if he should go nearer, decided then against it and walked to his own desk where Sen already waited for him.

"What is now with the stalker, Hide-kun ?" With a sigh, he looked back to Okita and Chizuru while he massaged his temples. "It seems that he escaped. We failed." The face of the young woman fell as she heard this and followed Hideyoshi's gaze before she murmured. "Then we can only hope he'll never return."

\* \* \*

><p>As she entered the office alone, she saw that Sen and Hideyoshi were like always working together. But as she came in, Hideyoshi raised his head, said something to Sen and walked in her direction. Chizuru could only imagine what he was up to do and prepared herself for a lie as he stopped in front of her. "Did the stalker appear again and do you know now where he is ?" While he spoke, she could see a glimmer in his eyes which told her how excited he was about her response. She was sure he expected she would tell him how they caught the stalker. Chizuru bit her lips, tried hard to calm down as memories from the incident came up in her mind, and spoke with shaking hands.<p>

"The stalker is gone. After we got Akina from him back, he left the city and is missing since then." She said while her eyes had lost their gleam they normally had and her heart ached. Why pained it so much to lie to him, she asked herself as she waited for his response. The look he gave her showed her he was not believing a single word. "What do you mean with the stalker is \_gone\_ ?"

She could not describe how bad she felt as she lied again to Hideyoshi. When had it begun that she could not trust him anymore and had to cover Okita so nothing bad happened to her friends ? A thick lump built up in her throat, while she tried hard that he did not notice it, suppressing every emotion that could let her appear suspicious. It was hard, very hard for her not to tell him the truth about the death of the stalker. When she would tell it to him, she had to explain him \_how\_ he died and this was something she could not do.

"I said it before. He escaped." Her eyes looked straight in his face, trying hard to look firm to convince him she was telling the truth, even if she felt the pain for lying to him in her chest. However, Hideyoshi seemed not to be convinced as he retorted. "But this don't explain why you had the chance to get Akina back from him while he could escape!" Now, she did not know what she could say against this. After several seconds of thinking, she replied.

"He was too quick for us, Hideyoshi. We had no chance against him. Accept it." After her speech, she turned her head to the side to not look at him. She could not bear it to see his face while she lied any longer, pained it enough. Again, she thought back to the car drive with the three men who brought her and Akina home. They told her Akina would presumably not remember what happened after the shock for what she was glad. She was a girl who should not know that such things existed or how Okita killed the stalker. No, she wanted her spared from such a memory. Unlike her, she could carry such a memory,

even if it tore her heart apart. Then, she heard the sound of a closing door and turned around to see Okita walking to them.

"Mornin'." He greeted them in the most casual manner, as if nothing had happened the day before. Chizuru felt how her body stiffened by his appearance and how her heart beat faster than before as she saw again these green eyes which fixed on her like a hunter his prey. She managed a halfway normal grimace on her face before she forced the next words out of her mouth.

"Good Morning, Okita-san."

The smile he gave her was something she could not really interpret. Was it a friendly smile or a dark one? Nevertheless, she tried hard to regain her composure to act as normal as she could as she heard the next words of Hideyoshi who was not very pleased about Okita's late appearance. But Okita could counter easily and their little dialogue ended. Before one of them spoke another word, she walked to Okita's side, wide enough so Hideyoshi could not hear what they were saying.

"I have to talk with you privately, Okita-san." By her statement, he raised an eyebrow. "About what?" She simply sighed by his question. "You'll see soon enough. Meet me at 5 pm in Starbucks." While she spoke, he laid his one finger on his chin before a grin spread over his face. Then, he bent down to her ear and whispered. "I'd like to hear your confession." With his words, he leaned back and winked at her before he patted her head while Chizuru gaped at him with a deep blush that spread over her face.

"O-Okita-san! This is not-"

She did not finish her sentence as his hand rested on her head and she felt the warmth that radiated from it. For a very long time, both looked into each others eyes hypnotized without speaking a word until he broke the connection by taking his hand away and walking to his desk while she stared after him, wondering what happened some seconds ago.

~xXx~

The sun was burning down ruthless on her head as she walked through the streets of the city while she thought about the things she wanted to say in Starbucks to Okita. There were so many things she wanted to know and had to say. It was nearly overwhelming. But nevertheless, she knew she had to collect her thoughts first when she wanted him to take her serious. She knew he was a person who took things too light-heartedly when they were not convincing enough so it was very important for her to act as firm as possible.

With this in mind, she straightened her attitude as she halted in front of Starbucks, looking at the letters of the cafe. It was the third time for her to be here. This was one of the reasons why she decided that this should be their meeting point. She took a deep breath and entered it to see it was overcrowded but to her luck, she spotted two chairs and she sat herself on one of the free seats and ordered a coffee, waiting for Okita to come.

While she waited for him, she let her gaze wander around to look at



the people to make sure no one would overhear their conversation as her head halted by a man she knew. It was the same man who sat beside her in the bus the day she met Okita. She looked for a short moment away to not act too suspicious so he would not know she was watching him. As she looked again to him, he seemed not to notice it at all so she could look at him more openly.

He possessed long brown hair he had tied to a ponytail and grey eyes which were fixed on his own coffee cup. His right elbow rested on the table while his hand supported his chin and his left hand rested on his left knee. He wore a black suit with a white shirt that only business people wore. She could not tell why, but he had something on him which fascinated her so she had big problems to look away. Suddenly, he raised his head and their gazes met. He raised an eyebrow as if he would ask her why she was staring at him. But she did not have an answer for it, could she not explain it herself. Then, she noticed he remembered her of someone, but she could not put a finger in who it was as the man stood up from his place and began to walk in her direction and sat himself on the other free seat across from her.

As she saw that his gaze rested on her, she suppressed a gulp. She felt how her heart beat more and more faster as the seconds passed in which no one said a word. But his next words took her by surprise. "Don't worry. I am just here to talk with you a little." While he spoke, his face did not change. There was no smile or something similar which could encourage her a little. It was like a mask he wore even if she did not know his reasons for it. He bent forward so his face came nearer. "First, what's your name?"

"Yukimura Chizuru." As he heard her words, he only nodded before he continued. "Alright Chizuru-chan. What business do you have with Okita Fujiwara-san ?" By his words, her eyes widened lightly. Where did he know Okita ? And, more importantly, where did he know she was meeting him? All this questions shot through her head as she thought about an answer for herself while the man waited calmly. She decided it was the best to pose a counter question.

"Where do you know Okita-san ?" He seemed to be surprised by her question as he raised again his perfect eyebrow, but to her luck, he responded. "We are... some kind of friends."

"Friends ?" She was surprised to hear such a thing from him. It made sense to her. But the question was, when they were friends, why he had to ask her ? Could he not ask Okita ? Before she could think about it further, he spoke with a deep sigh and closed eyes. "Even if we're friends, we don't have the... best contact at the moment. It's complicated." Chizuru nodded. She knew that Okita was a difficult person to handle with so she could understand him. "Yeah, he can really be...complicated at some times." With this, she began to laugh awkwardly while he simply stared at her as if she was insane. However, in the next moment his body stiffened and he stood up quickly from his seat.

"I have to go now. It was nice to talk with you, Chizuru-chan " She looked at him confused, not knowing what to say as he walked out the cafe without leaving her a name for him. Only moments later, she got her coffee from the waitress. She received the cup and took a sip from it, still thinking about her meeting with the stranger who left some seconds ago. It bothered her where he knew Okita and why did he

talk with her at the first place. They were strangers and she had nothing to do with him. She only stared at him for too long what she regretted in the end. And now, she had to think about him. Suddenly, she noticed a moving in front of her and as she looked up, she saw Okita with his trademark smile who sat on the same spot where the brown haired man sat some seconds ago. As he saw her confused gaze, he only tended his head to the side.

"Is something wrong, Chizuru-chan ?" The young woman shook her head with a faint smile. "No, everything is alright, Okita-san. You just missed someone." Now, the curiosity took control over him as he raised his eyebrow like the nameless man did. "Is that so ? Who ?"

"I don't know. He did not tell me his name." Now, his brows furrowed but Chizuru only shook her hands. "But this isn't important and we're not here to talk about it." With this, she ended the issue and folded her arms in front of her chest. "We're here to talk about you." He only laughed. "Me ?"

"Yes. I want you to stop with killing." Now, she had his full attention as he laughed again while he leaned back to take in a more comfortable position. "You want me to stop? How do you imagine I shall do this ? How can I handle with people who don't understand another language ?"

"Just speak with them. There had to be another way than violence." He only shook his head. "Can't do this." She looked at him with a questioning gaze, could she not understand what he meant by that. Was it really not possible or were there other reasons ? "Why ?" He sighed and rubbed his head while he looked openly to her. "Because it's my duty to get rid of this scum. They don't have the right to live."

"Everyone has the right to live, Okita-san." He looked at her with a thoughtful gaze she never saw before. It was strange for her to see him in this state. "You say that, but for us it's different. We see the world with different eyes, Chizuru-chan."

"But this don't give you or others the right to kill! Every life is important." He only frowned by her words. "Why do you want so vigorously that I stop killing ? You don't even know those people." Chizuru looked at him as if he had said something strange. Yeah, he was right. Why did she not want that he kill ? She thought for a long time about it before she shook her head.

"I don't know. It's just so...wrong to kill." He sighed. "Listen. The people I kill have forfeited their lives with things they did wrong and what is inexcusable. Most of them have much power which allows them to live a good life after a short punishment. The justice would only give them short imprisonment or fines. Is this fair ?" While Chizuru thought about his question, she saw how he ordered a coffee for himself as the waitress came back. She drank from her own coffee and took it down before she answered.

"No, this isn't fair. But killing is also not fair." A short silence developed between them as they dwell their own thoughts until Chizuru broke the silence. "However, who were those three men who appeared out of nowhere ?" He seemed to be surprised by her question, but nevertheless, he remained calm as he received his coffee and began to

drink from it slowly. After some seconds, he laid it down on the table and replied. "You know, we're all from the same...organization and we work for different goals because one thing unites us."

"And what is it ?" He stopped and narrowed his eyes as he noticed his error for talking too many. "This is something that should not occupy you." She looked at him questioning and raised her voice. "But you-"

"I said this is none of your business." Now, his voice was more harsh than before and she winced in shock. Had she said something wrong ? Or did he just not want to talk with her about it ? She watched how his eyes had changed again to this red color and how the air shifted in his direction. "Okita-san. Your eyes..." Just this moment, he seemed to notice the change and closed his eyes. As he opened them again, you could see again the green color in it which was a relief for her. "Okita-san. I-"

"I go for now. See you tomorrow at the station." With his words, he stood up and left the Starbucks.

~XXx~

It was late when she got home. She had spent many of her time in Starbucks, thinking about the conversation she had with Okita. She still did not understand what she did wrong. Had she said or done something what was not in his interest ? Only because he did not want her to know what unites him with his comrades ? What was so wrong with it, she asked herself for the thousandth time as she entered her apartment. It was dark in it, was it already past 10 pm as she arrived, but this did not bother her at all. What bothered her was still the question about Okita's behavior. No matter what she did, she could not get rid of the feeling that he had given her an important clue that could help her to understand him better.

After this short conversation with Kondo, she had decided to understand him so she could get along with him so his statement would be true. She hated it generally she had to lie to people who trusted her so she would do everything so the lie turned to the truth. This meant for her she had to get him to know better and reveal the secrets he had in store. Even if it was a play with the fire, she knew she had to do it when she did not want to lie any longer.

The moment she approached the living room, she saw light which came from it. With a confused expression, she walked nearer until she leaned on the door and took out her service weapon. When it was a housebreaker, she had to overwhelm him with her gun. She would not allow him to escape so easily. With a determined expression on her face, she kicked the door open and jumped in with her gun in hands, only to see the surprised face of her father.

"Otouto-san ?" Chizuru spoke out in mild surprise while she lowered her weapon. He looked at her with a confused expression before a warm smile graced his lips. "Chizuru. What are you doing ?" She replied the smile with a relieved one. "I thought you were a housebreaker Otouto-san."

"A housebreaker ? Chizuru, what do you think ? These apartments are safe for the many money they cost." She only nodded in agreement before she put her gun back in her pocket. It was just her father and

not a potential criminal for what she was grateful. "You're right. However, what can I do for you Otou-san ? What brings you here so late ?" With a soft smile, he sat himself back on her couch and patted the spot beside him. She did what he wanted from her immediately and placed herself on the couch next to him. Then, he began to speak. "I am here because I have to say you something important."

"Something important, what is it ?" Chizuru did not know what it could be what her father had to tell her so she was curious about it. But as she saw his warm smile, she knew it had to be something good. He patted her back to comfort her before he replied. "I'll marry, Chizuru." By his words, her eyes widened. He wanted what ? "You want to marry again, Otou-san ?" He nodded in big joy and continued. "Yes, I'll marry my current girlfriend soon. It would be great when you have time to participate." Chizuru thought about it and remembered the last time she met his girlfriend who was several years younger than him. She had always suspected she was only after his money, but with no proof she could do nothing. With a nod, she responded. "Yeah, I'll come. When it will be ?"

"In two weeks. And it would be super when you bring your boyfriend with you." She choked and stared at him as if he was insane. Her boyfriend ? Just this time, she remembered how Kaoru saw Okita together with her this one night and decided he had told their father about him. The big question was : What he had told him about Okita ? She knew that her father was always strict with her love-life and wanted to have the control over it like with his firm. She was not sure how she should feel now, was she at all not together with Okita or even in love with him. No, it was the contrary. She hated him for the things he did and feared him at the same time. There was no love. But at the same time, she wanted to understand him. It was complicated.

Now, she thought what she could say to her father. She could not reveal that it was a lie that she was together with Okita. This would only bring him to ask her who he was and she could not risk this when she wanted his safety. Again, she had to lie and hoped that Okita would help her out. With a bright smile, she tried to overplay her lie.

"This sounds great Otou-san. We'll be there."

She saw the satisfied smile on the face of her father which hurt her more than she would admit. Why she had to lie countless times to the ones she loved ? Why she could not be honest with him ? Her thoughts stopped as she felt the hand from her father patting her head. It was the same spot where Okita touched her. "I am so happy you're not sad that I'll marry again because of you're Oka-san." With this, he wanted to go as he saw something. He took the fabric away from Chizurus right shoulder and saw a red hand print which was from Okita. With a frown, he looked to his daughter.

"What happened ?" All the color disappeared from her face as she saw the hand print from Okita. How she could explain this ? While she thought desperately about a lie, she felt how her father touched the burning which let her moan in pain. Even if it was two days ago, it still hurt. "We have to bandage it, Chizuru." She broke away from his grip and raised her hands. "N-No this isn't necessary. I-"

He interrupted her as he simply get the first aid box. He sat himself next to her and opened the box where he found a bandage. "Stretch your arm, please." She did what he wanted and he wrapped the bandage around her wound. He was long ago a doctor before he founded all the companies which made him rich. He even possessed an own doctor's office. "Ready." She looked surprised at the perfectly made bandage. Even if he was not a doctor anymore, he could still make bandages.

"Can you now tell me where do you get this ?" This time, she thought not long as she looked to the side to avoid his gaze. "I burnt myself." He frowned. "Chizuru. You know you can tell me everything. Right ?" She bit her lip. "I am tired, Otou-san." He only nodded by her statement and stood up. "It's already late. I think I should go. See you at the wedding." With this words, he patted her head and left the apartment while she stared after him.

She had lied again.

## 11. Chapter 10

**\*\*The next chapter is up! Enjoy!**  
><strong>

### \_Chapter 10\_

At the next day, she drove with her car to the office while she still thought about the conversation she had with her father the night before. He wanted to marry his girlfriend who was twenty years younger than him. For Chizuru, she was only after his money and not his love. Even if she had no proof, she was sure her guess was right. Such a love could simply not work in her mind.

It had to be.

However, there was the problem that her father wanted her to bring her \_boyfriend\_ with her. But she and Okita were not together or something similar. And she had no idea how she could persuade him to play along with her that they were. With a deep sigh, she halted the car on the parking lot and looked out the window to see his motorbike standing next to the station what confused her. Normally, he was always too late but now he was already there. This was strange in her mind. \_Perhaps he has realized that it would be better when he comes in time ? \_She thought before she left her car and walked to the station.

The moment she entered the office, she saw that only Sen was there what was something she had not expected.

"Good Morning O-Sen-chan." The other woman looked up and smiled brightly. "Chizuru-chan!" With this, she stood up from her chair and walked in her direction as Chizuru asked. "Where are Okita-san and Hideyoshi ?" When Sen stopped in front of her she only shook her head. "They are driven to the next case after Hideyoshi insisted."

"He insisted ?" Sen nodded. "He said how important it was to be quickly there before an other station take the case away and dragged Okita-san with him." Chizuru frowned by her words, but said nothing

to it. She was sure Hideyoshi knew what he was doing very well. What bothered her was why Okita allowed Hideyoshi to do this ? This was something she could not understand. Banishing these thoughts, she remembered back her own problem with the wedding and decided to talk with Sen about it.

"O-Sen-chan ? Can I talk with you about something private ?" Sen looked at her with a questioning look. "Sure. You know, you can talk with me about everything, Chizuru-chan." She sighed relieved before she spoke. "Well, it is...my father wants to marry again." Surprised by her statement, her eyes widened lightly. "He wants to marry again ? Is this not great that he found a new person, Chizuru ?"

"Not really, because his girlfriend is twenty years younger than him." Now, Sen seemed to understand what she meant. "Do you think she is only after his..." Chizuru nodded. "Money ? Yes, this is what Iâ'm thinking."

"But Chizuru-chan. Do you really think his girlfriend is like this ? What if she truly loves your father ? You havenâ't even met her." She thought about her words for a short time until she shook her head vigorously. "No, this canâ't be." Sen looked at her with a sad smile. "Could it be that you canâ't accept another woman at your fathers side ?" By her words, Chizuruâ's face hardened. "What do you want to say with this, O-Sen-chan ?"

"I just think that you imagine things, Chizuru-chan. Because you canâ't let go of your mother." The young woman closed her eyes pained as a memory shot in her mind she had repressed. She tried hard to repress it again as a tear left her eye. Sen noticed it first. "Chizuru-chan, what is with you ? Why youâ're crying ?" Just this moment, Chizuru noticed the tear on her cheek and touched it.

"Huh ? You ask why..." She did not know it herself as she let her hand rest on it to feel the wetness of the tear. Sen looked at her with worried eyes before she took a step forward and touched Chizuru on her shoulder as she suddenly clapped her hand away in panic. "P-Please...donâ't..."

\_Finish her off. Sheâ'd seen everything.\_

A strange voice and azure blue eyes appeared in her mind, clasped her heart and soul in a strong grip. She felt how it got harder and harder to breath normally and how sweat covered her forehead as she fell on her knees. "Chizuru-chan!" Again, she heard the voice of Sen, but she was too busy to try to focus on the memory which tried to reach her as she closed her eyes.

~xXx~

\_As she opened her eyes again, she was standing in a dark ally. It was in the middle of the night and the moon was shining brightly over her head. The wind rustled in her ear and several leaves passed her as she heard voices from not so far away. She hesitated as she let her gaze wander around, thinking if she should go and see what was going on. There was something that wanted to hold her back, but she fought against this feeling and walked with firm footsteps to the place where she suspected the scene.\_

\_After a while, she reached another ally where the voices got louder

and louder. She just wanted to turn the corner as she heard how a man spoke.\_

"\_Geez, just finish her off. She'd seen everything. I'll be on my way. Someone will pick you up later." She looked around the corner and saw a blond haired man, who was very short, with azure blue eyes who looked at a boy with short brown hair. Instead of looking at the man, her gaze remained by the boy as she saw his burnt face. It was a horrible sight and she wondered what happened to him as she saw how the man turned around and left together with two other men the scene. Then, the boy turned to a girl who sat on the ground with wide and teary eyes. She possessed short brown hair, brown eyes and wore a red kimono with white flowers.\_

"\_P-Please...don't..."\_

\_The girl pleaded the boy as he walked in her direction. His hair changed to white and his eyes to a deep shade of red. He looked down at her with a pained expression as he knelt down in front of her reaching for her head. But she drew back immediately, trying to stand up and flee as she felt pain in her left leg. As she looked down, she saw how the boy hold her leg in his, burnt her pale skin only with his touch. She wanted to scream, but he seemed to know what she was up to do as he stopped her by closing her mouth with his free hand.\_

"\_Don't scream. I will help you." Now, the girl looked at him confused. "\_But before I explain everything to you, you have to promise me you won't scream, will you ?" The girl only nodded by his proposal and as he took his hand away, she remained silent, even if more tears left her eyes. "Alright, you did a good job. I will now remove the bonds if this is okay with you." He looked at her expectant and saw how she nodded. \_

\_With a faint smile, he freed her and helped her to stand up. She felt how her legs were still shaky, but thanks to his support she could stand. As she looked up to him, she saw now clearer the burns he had all over the face. Her gaze wandered deeper and she noticed that his entire body was burnt. Alone the sight of all the wounds pained. Without thinking, she stretched out her hand and touched his cheek while his red eyes widened.\_

"\_What-" He stopped as he looked in her big chocolate brown eyes which looked at him so innocently. But her next words took him by surprise. "Does it hurts ?" Now, he was speechless. This was the first time where someone asked him such a question. He did not know what he should say, but quickly, he found the right word.\_

"\_Yes..."\_

~xXx~

"...ru-chan! Chizuru-chan!" The loud voice of her friend brought her back to reality. As she opened her eyes, she saw Sen kneeling beside her, holding her in a tight embrace with tears in her eyes. The moment she looked at her, a beam could be seen on her face. "Oh Chizuru..." With this, she hugged Chizuru while more tears left her eyes. Slowly, her senses returned and she looked to her.  
"O-Sen-chan."

"I was so worried the moment you collapsed. I thought now everything is over." With her words, Sen drew back from her to give Chizuru the chance to breath. She formed a weak smile on her lips as she looked at Sen. "How you can see, I am still alive." Sen frowned. "Are you feeling ill ? This is the third time something happened to you." Now, Chizuru noticed her friend was right. This was indeed the third time that something like this happened to her. First, she landed in the hospital thanks to Goro and his mix of pills. Then she broke down as she tried to get along with Okita. And now, she lost her consciousness to see pictures she could not handle with.

Everything was so confusing for her.

And all of this happened after she met Okita. She was sure when she had not met him, everything was better. Then, the special force, Goro and the stalker would be alive right now. Alone by the thought of how they died, her body shook. No, she should not think about this. As she looked up, she saw that Sen was still waiting for something as she remembered her question.

"No, it's just..." \_I am too weak to do something against him.\_

Yes, this was the best way to describe it. Because she was not strong enough she could not do something against his killing intent. This was the reason why she had to become stronger and stronger, to save the lives he wanted to take. With this thought in mind, she stood up from her sitting position and walked to her desk. From now on, she would do everything to hold him back.

\* \* \*

><p>After a not so long car drive, the two men arrived the Heart Hospital<em>. <em>It was like in his memory the day he took Chizuru to this place so she could be saved from the dangerous mix of pills Goro had given her. But besides these memories, other things came up in his mind as he looked at this hospital. It was the same hospital where his sister was in. And the place where she died. He felt how anger arose in him as he remembered \_how\_ he learned about her death.

It was the day where he lost his heart. His humanity.

He was sure that he would never be able to love a person again like he did by his little sister. She was everything he had left from his family after their parents were killed. He saw how Hideyoshi walked already in the direction of the entrance and Souji followed him. The two entered and looked around to see only a few people. Hideyoshi sighed. "I think we should divide. You know after all what we want here." Souji nodded in agreement, relieved he could go on himself to settle things on his own. For him, Hideyoshi was only a hindrance that would stop him by his investigation. In the next moment, he passed Hideyoshi and walked through the corridor to look for people he could interrogate.

After a while, he saw a doctor who walked in his direction, The moment he wanted to pass him, he dragged him by his sleeve. "Oi doc. Can we talk ?" The man seemed to be in a hurry as he looked at him unnerved. "I've no time." With his words, he broke away from Souji



and entered another room while Souji looked after him. He felt how annoyance arose in him while he tried hard to suppress the impulse to destroy something for this. He hated it when he was ignored! After he recovered, he let his gaze wander around the floor to look for another doctor. He knew there had to be more than one doctor he could interrogate. Just in this moment, another doctor came through the door.

This time, he would not draw back.

As the doctor was near enough, he hold him like the other one on his sleeve. "Doc, we \_need to\_ talk." But again, the man had no time and wanted to go to fulfill his job. This time, Souji did not let him go so easily as he pushed him against the next wall, holding him on his throat, let him gasp for air. Then, he leaned forward and whispered. "If you not want to be hurt then come with me." The man gulped and nodded in fear, followed Souji to the next empty room. There, both sat down on chairs. Souji saw that the man was too frightened to speak a word so it was him who raised his voice after he folded his arms in front of his chest.

"Okay. You'll tell me now what do you know about the stolen organs." The other man gulped before he replied with a shaky voice. "T-These are information only the police is allowed to-"

"I am from the police."

Now, the doctor seemed to be confused what Souji could understand. What kind of policeman would threaten a helpless doctor ? But the answer was simple. He did not care about the things people thought about him. This was something he had trained over the years after he lost his humanity. However, the doctor seemed not to be convinced by his statement as he spoke. "I can't believe you're from the police. Can I see your mark Mister..."

"Okita. Okita Fujiwara." With his words, Souji put out his mark and showed it to the doctor, where his fake name was written. The doctor nodded. "Alright. Even if it's strange to believe that you are from the police, I'll answer every question." Souji smiled by his answer. "I had expected nothing else from you." The doctor only sighed before he stood up from his chair and went to the door. Before Souji could say something, he already spoke.

"I'll go get the documents about the missing organs. Please wait here." With this words, the doctor left the room in a hurry while Okita walked through the room, looking around with a bored expression. What could he do to kill some time ? He wondered as he let his gaze wander around the room. It seemed to be an office of one of the many doctors he could tell from the desk which stood in the corner of the room. Slowly, he walked to the desk and looked down to the different papers which laid scattered around.

It was as if someone had searched for something special.

He stretched his right hand out to touch the papers as he felt it. He knew the feeling all too good as his body stiffened and he grabbed with his free hand for his chest, holding it as if his heart would tear into pieces. \_No, not yet\_, he thought as he clasped his chest stronger and sank to his knees while his vision began to blur. In the next moment, he felt again the too familiar pain in his arm and

looked at it to see \_it\_ got bigger.

A rueful smile plastered his face as a single thought plastered his mind. He would do everything to delay his time for a little longer. This could not be it, not before he met \_him\_ again. He had to do so many things it was too early for him to die. With his last strength, he reached for the pills in his pocket and swallowed five of them before the pain ended, leaving a dull feeling in his body.

He sat for a longer time on the ground to refill his energy whereas his arms hang limp to his side. Souji knew this condition of him too well, came it always when he felt the pain and had to take his pills to stay alive. Without them, he would be dead long ago. Sighing, he let his gaze wander around as his vision got clearer and clearer and looked in a mirror to see his white hair and red eyes. With a bitter smile, he looked at himself in the mirror as he realized where he was. When the doctor came now, he would see him in this weak state what would endanger his secret. No, this was something he could not let happen. He fought himself up to his feet while he supported his weight on the desk, his gaze still trained on the mirror to see how slowly, the white vanished, his true hair color appeared and his eyes changed back to green.

With a relieved sigh, he took a deep breath before he walked slowly around the desk to take a look at the papers. It was a collection of men and woman who needed a new organ, but to his surprise, every face was strikeout with a red marker. Before he could think about it any longer, the door pushed open, revealed two men who remembered him of bodyguards with their black uniform, sunglasses and their strongly built appearance.

"What do you think you're doing ?" He heard the voice of the doctor who walked away to get the information about the stolen organs. He spotted him behind the big men, seemingly not brave enough to say him things straight in the face. He raised an eyebrow as he noticed that the doctor showed now a new attitude. Even if he hid himself behind the men, he had more courage than when he was alone. As he remembered his question, he showed again his usual grin.

"I was just... looking around. However, who are those lovely men ?" Before the doctor could say a word, one of the men spoke. "We're from the security. And you're \_not\_ welcomed." Souji only shook his head. "Are, and you will tell me that you want me to go, even if I am from the police ?"

"This doesn't matter. You threatened this man and we're here to show you your borders. From now on you're banned from this place." Souji nearly laughed by his answer. He knew he could kill them in an instant. It etched him in his fingers to just kill them so that they shut up. The problem was, that this place was full crowded with witnesses and he could not risk it that a single person knew his secret. Not that Hijikata ordered him to watch more people than Chizuru. One girl was enough. With clenching hands, he decided it was the best to play along with them and do what they wanted, even though it did not please him at all.

"Alright." He pressed out with gritted teeth and followed both men out to the entrance where Hideyoshi already awaited him. But as he saw the two men from the security, he frowned and walked in their direction. "What happened ?" Souji passed him without a word. He was

not in the mood to handle him. From wide far, he heard how Hideyoshi shouted his name, but this was something he simply ignored as he continued walking to the car.

\* \* \*

><p>After two hours, Hideyoshi and Okita returned from the hospital and entered the office. When she spotted Okita, she saw that his face was pale. She could even see individual sweat drops on his forehead. <em>Is he sick ?<em>, she wondered as she watched how he passed her and walked to his desk where he let himself plop. She just wanted to go to him to see what was going on, was it not good to work when you were ill, as Hideyoshi blocked her way with his body.

"Chizuru-chan, are you already informed about our current case ?" First, she did not know what he wanted from her. But as she realized it, she nodded. "Hai. It's about stolen organs. Sen told me about it."

"Then you surely know that Okita and I were in the hospital to gather more information. However, I am coming to the topic. We know now that all organs has been removed masterly. It has to be a professional we think."

"A professional ?" This was something what she had had not expected. She took a deep breath before she spoke. "Do you mean it was... a doctor with surgical knowledge ?" Hideyoshi only nodded. "Yes. Only one of them who knows many about surgery can be the culprit. We need a plan how we can find it out who it is." With this, both fell silent. There had to be a way that they could find out more about it without showing that they were from the police. Then, an idea popped up in his mind.

"How about we send someone to the hospital who works there for a while ?" Chizuru frowned. "And who shall that be ? I am not even sure if Kondo-san gives us the okay for it. You know, it isn't safe to work undercover."

"But this is the only thing we can do, Chizuru-chan. The doctors at the hospital won't cooperate with us for some reason." She thought about his words for a long time before she looked up to Sen who sat behind her desk. "I think we should ask O-Sen-chan for her opinion first." With a short nod, Hideyoshi walked to Sen while Chizuru followed his doings with her eyes. As he came to a halt, she looked up to him confused. "What's the matter, Hide-kun ?"

"We just wanted to ask you for your opinion about an undercover mission in the Heart Hospital." Sen thought about his statement for a short time until she nodded. "What speaks against it ?" He sighed in relief as he answered. "Thanks to you, nothing." Sen seemed to be more confused by his answer, but Hideyoshi already turned around and walked back to Chizuru who waited patiently for him. With a winning grin, he leaned forward that their noses nearly touched and spoke. "She has nothing against it. This means we can do it." Chizuru bit her bottom lip as she thought back to the bad feeling she had as Hideyoshi suggested his idea with the undercover mission. Even though she did not know why, she knew her feeling was always right.

Something would happen during this undercover mission.

But she also knew that she could say now nothing against Hideyoshi. What would he think when he knew about her bad feeling ? Would he laugh at her ? Or would he say how stupid it was to believe in bad signs ? With a deep sigh, she tried hard to banish these thoughts to reply his gaze with a hopefully confident one.

"Yes, I think you're right." With a satisfied smile, Hideyoshi drew back and walked through the room, thinking about who they should send. He knew he could convince Kondo that he allowed it to them so he thought about this not any longer. "Okita and I can't go, they know our faces. Sen or you have to go." As he spoke, Sen and Chizuru looked both to him, thinking who would it be. Chizuru knew that undercover missions were always risky, so she decided it would be the best when she did it. After all, she knew something about medicine from her father so it would be no problem to fake her true interest in the job. With a determined expression, she stood up from her seat and spoke with a firm voice.

"I'll do it."

## 12. Chapter 11

\*\*I am sorry for the long wait. Here is the next chapter for you!  
Enjoy!\*\*

### \_\_Chapter 11\_\_

It was early in the morning and the sun was shining brightly when she entered her car to drive to the Heart Hospital in order to start with her investigation. She could not deny that she was nervous. This was her first time she would work undercover. But she knew she had to do her best when she wanted that they came nearer their goal to find the person who stole all the organs. After all, many people died because of the lack of organs and it was simply her duty to prevent more victims. With a deep sigh, she passed the next crossroad while her thoughts drifted back to her current problem.

Her father expected that she brought her boyfriend with her although the supposed boyfriend did not exist. Sure, she could simply tell them the truth. But then Kaoru would ask about Okita and why she lied to him at the first place. And this truth she could not say aloud when she wanted to prevent a massacre. She bit her bottom lip as she thought about a solution for her problem as she reached her destination and halted the car in front of the hospital. She looked for a very long time to the building, not knowing if she was in time. Out of habit, she took her mobile-phone to check the time as she noticed she had received two new SMS. She opened the text-messages to see that they were from Sen and Hideyoshi. A small smile graced her lips as she read through the text.

\_Sen, 6:12 am\_

\_Â'Good luck, Chizuru-chan. We believe in you!Â'\_

\_Hideyoshi, 6:24 am\_

\_Â'Make your job good.Â'\_

She took her mobile-phone back in her pocket and gazed to the entrance of the building to see a group of men entering the hospital. With firm steps, she left the car and followed them. The moment she stepped in, she let her gaze wander around to see she was in the entrance hall of the hospital where her life was saved days ago. Even if she had no memory how she ended up here, she knew from Saito's explanation that he and Okita had saved her life by bringing her here. As she continued watching, she saw a receptionist standing not so far away behind the related desk. She decided it was the best to speak with her. With this in mind, she walked to a woman who was much older than her with dark hair she had tied with hairpins and small brown eyes.

"Excuse me ?" As she spoke, the woman looked up from her newspaper she was reading. Her glare showed she was not pleased at all. "What is it ?" Chizuru simply ignored the bad mood from the woman and continued. "Can you please tell me where I can find the office of Uso-sensei, Miss ?" The woman in front of her sighed deeply. It was not hard to guess how unnerved the receptionist was from her. But she said nothing to it. She simply stood up from her seat and walked around the desk.

"Follow me." Chizuru did what was asked from her and walked behind the woman through the corridor, where many doctors and nurses passed them, until they reached a room where both stopped. The receptionist knocked on the door twice before she opened it while Chizuru waited patiently outside. She could hear voices from the inside, but she didn't understand what they were saying. During her wait, she regarded some pictures on the wall which showed men and women in white clothing. Before she could think about this longer, the woman exited the room, made a short hand-move that showed her she could go in and left quickly. Presumably, she was happy that she could go back to her beloved newspaper. Shaking her head about this silly thought, Chizuru opened the door and entered. The room possessed big windows that were located behind a desk. By the table, sat a man with short blond hair and azure blue eyes who looked at her expectant.

"Please take a seat." Chizuru walked to one of the chairs that stood in front of the desk and seated herself on it. The moment she sat down, the chair made a crackle sound. She even was afraid that it could not carry her weight. But even after some seconds, nothing happened to her luck. After she was sure the chair would not burst into pieces, she looked up to the blond haired man who raised his voice again. "What can I do for you ?" The man asked in a kind voice while he looked curiously at her. Chizuru took a deep breath as she responded. "My name is Yukimura Chizuru and I am the new trainee. But I don't know where I can start working." Surprise could be seen on his face as the man looked at her with a thoughtful gaze. After some time, he cleared his throat. "Well, I indeed heard from you. I think it's the best when you go to Kimigiku-sensei. She will explain everything to you." Chizuru nodded. She had not expected a fast solution for her problem, but she was glad that the doctor could help her. Chizuru stood up and bowed. "Thank you very much, Uso-sensei!" The man only laughed. "You're welcome."

After Chizuru said her goodbyes to the man, she left the office and walked again through the corridor in search for the woman named Kimigiku. She even asked some of the other nurses she had met if they knew where doctor Kimigiku was, but to her regret, no one could help her. It was as if she vanished from the hospital. After one hour of

searching, she stopped and leaned her aching body against the next wall, breathing hard in exhaustion. She wasn't used to stand for so long and felt the pain in her legs.

\_How shall I find her in this big building ? \_She asked herself while she stroke with the back of her hand over her forehead. Chizuru was about to give up her search. It made no sense when she was alone in search for a single person who could be everywhere. She was about to think about another solution when she heard voices from not so far away and saw a lady-doctor with long dark hair she had tied up standing in the corridor. Across from her, stood a woman with her child, seemingly talking with the doctor. Chizuru watched them for a while until the mother and her child got ready for depart. This was the moment where Chizuru decided to go to her. Perhaps she knew where she could find doctor Kimigiku.

"Excuse me Ma'am?" The woman turned around to her so she could see her lilac eyes which were gazing down at her. "Do you need something, dear ?" Chizuru nodded. "Hai, I am looking for Kimigiku-sensei. Do you know where I can find her ?" First, the woman looked at her confused until she laughed. "I am Kimigiku." Taken aback by surprise, she pushed the air out of her lungs she had hold back. She had finally found the woman she was looking for. Chizuru steadied herself before she bowed deeply. "My name is Yukimura Chizuru and I am the new trainee here. Uso-sensei told me to come here so you can explain everything to me."

By hearing her words Kimigiku's eyes widened lightly, but because Chizuru looked at the bottom, she did not see it. The only thing she did was hearing her next words. "I see. When this is what Uso-sensei wish then I will follow his instruction. You can raise your head." Chizuru did what was demanded from her and looked up to see a smile on the red lips of the woman. Just in the next moment she noticed how beautiful she was. She turned around and walked in the opposite direction while Chizuru did not move. After some footsteps, Kimigiku looked back to see her still standing at the same spot.

"Come, I will show you everything." With somewhat hesitation, Chizuru followed the woman. They walked through the entire hospital where Kimigiku showed her everything and explained things which were not clarified to her. More and more time passed until she had seen everything from the hospital when Kimigiku halted in front of another room. "This is my office. Whenever you have questions, come and ask me."

Chizuru nodded and bowed again. "Thank you for showing me around, Kimigiku-sensei!" The woman only smiled. Just in this moment, a picture of a woman with long dark hair, a torn white dress and teary eyes popped up in her mind. But the picture disappeared as quick as it appeared. While Chizuru's body stiffened by the picture she saw, Kimigiku was already gone.

~XXx~

She walked back to the operating room she had passed together with Kimigiku during their tour through the hospital. Even if she had no idea if she was needed there, she knew she would not know when she did not try. With enough determination, she walked to one of the doctors who was talking with another doctor. As he was aware of her presence, he looked in her direction as she raised her voice. "Excuse

me for jumping in. But I need your help ." The man excused himself from his dialogue partner before he turned to her. "How may I help you; Miss ?"

"My name is Yukimura Chizuru. You know, I am the new trainee and I don't know what can I do to be useful for the hospital." He nodded in understanding as he thought about a task he could give her as an idea popped up in his mind. "We have another trainee who shall assist Matsumoto-sensei. You can go to Matsumoto-sensei and ask him for more instruction." Chizuru bowed deeply. "Thank you very much! Where can I find him ?"

"Go to section number four and ask there for Matsumoto-sensei. He will definitely have work for you." Chizuru nodded again and said her goodbyes to the doctor. Now, she knew where she had to go. And with this, she could perhaps gather more information about the stolen organs. She walked through the different sections until she reached number four. Chizuru was about to go further as she heard a scream. "Get out of the way!" The cries came nearer and nearer until someone ran into her from behind. Chizuru made a muffled sound as she fell to the ground. While Chizuru still laid awkwardly on the ground, trying hard to regain her senses, the girl sat up who ran into Chizuru, looking shocked at her.

"I am sorry! I am so sorry! I swear I didn't mean to run into you!" Chizuru felt how the girl who wore glasses took her hands in hers the moment she sat up, looking more than confused. "Please accept my honest apologizes!" Some moments passed in which Chizuru looked into the azure blue eyes who waited patiently for her response. But as nothing came back, the girl continued. "Oh my goodness! Did I took away your voice! Damn it! I am so clumsy!" While the girl still cursed under her breath about what a fool she was, Chizuru recovered and managed it somehow to speak out her next words. "N-No. I can speak. I was just...deeply shocked."

The girl looked at her guilty for a while until she stood up jerkily and stretched out her hand to help her up. Chizuru hesitated before she took the hand in hers and stood up. Again, an awkward silence developed between the two until the girl made a face-palm. "My manners! How could I forget such a normal manner ?" Immediately, she let go of Chizurus hand and bowed. "Itoe Hana is my name. It's nice to meet you." Taken aback by surprise, Chizuru did nothing at the moment. How should she react to a thing like that ? Somehow, she managed it to reply. "Yukimura Chizuru." Suddenly, the air shifted as the girl looked at her with big eyes. "Are you the daughter of Yukimura Kodou ?"

Chizuru nodded and this was the time where she regretted her choice as the girl began to speak in a fast pace. "This is amazing! You know, I read many about him and his doings and I find it good what he does, oh my god this is so cool to speak with the daughter of him! And there is also..." She stopped to hear what the girl named Hana was talking about as she simply stared at her in hope this girl would stop talking as soon as possible. This was the first time she wished a person would stop talking and go away to leave her alone. As if heaven had heard her pleas, a doctor walked in their direction and halted two meters away, looking at the papers that laid scattered around. Just this moment she noticed the papers Hana was holding before she bumped into her.

"Hana." The girl stopped abruptly with her talking and turned around to face the doctor in surprise. "Matsumoto-sensei!" The doctor knelt down with a sigh and started to collect the papers as Chizuru decided to help him. She knelt down and began to collect the papers like him. The moment she was ready, she gave him the papers. As both stood again, he looked at her closely before a faint smile graced his lips.

"Thank you very much for the help!" Chizuru nodded. "You're welcome, Matsumoto-sensei." He smiled warmly at her, before his gaze changed as he looked to the blond haired girl. "Hana, how often I told you not to run in the corridor?" She pouted as she looked embarrassed to the side and murmured. "Often enough." Again the doctor sighed, asking himself what he did wrong with the girl. She was since six months his apprentice and did everything wrong. It was a miracle she did not died an accident. "Matsumoto-sensei?" The doctor looked surprised to Chizuru who spoke some seconds ago. "What is it, child?"

"Yukimura Chizuru is my name and I am the new trainee in this hospital. A sensei told me I should go to you because you have work for me." Matsumoto looked at her with a thoughtful gaze before he nodded. "I understand." He looked again to Hana and gave her without a word the papers. "Take this to Inoue-san. He will need it."

"Hai Matsumoto-sensei!" The girl responded and started to run again through the corridor with the papers in her hands. But Matsumoto made no effort to shout after her. Instead, he turned his attention back to Chizuru. "Well, come with me, Yukimura-kun." Chizuru nodded by his words and followed him to his office where he offered her a place to sit. After both of them took a seat, he looked through a few papers which laid on his desk. Chizuru watched him silently by his doings, waiting patiently for him to over think a work she could do.

After some minutes, he raised his head and spoke. "How you can see, I have many work to do. Perhaps you can help me and Hana by our work." Chizuru nodded in agreement as she recalled the real reason for her being here. She had to collect information on herself and for this, she had to ask questions. "Matsumoto-sensei? Can I ask you something?" The doctor looked firstly surprised, but he recovered quickly as he responded. "Sure. You can ask everything."

"You know, I heard about the stolen organs, but I don't know many about this case. Can you tell me more about it?" Matsumoto's face fell by her words as he looked at her with a thoughtful gaze before he sighed. "Actually, I am not allowed to speak about it, but I think it's no harm when a trainee know a little about it." He cleared his throat before he continued.

"It happened all two weeks ago as we wanted to transplant the new organs to the people who needed it the most. Suddenly, all the new organs were disappeared and we had a big problem. We asked for new ones and after we get them, we thought everything would be alright. But they also disappeared." He paused for a short moment and looked thoughtful to Chizuru who listened his words silently. This were all things they already knew. She had to get more information. "What happened then?" Matsumoto sighed.

"We called for the police in hope they could find the culprit, but it seems that it's very hard for them to find the person." Chizuru



thought about his words. Everything he told her was not new to her. She had to ask further. "Who do you think is the culprit, Matsumoto-sensei ?" He looked to the closed door before he replied with intertwined hands.

"I think it can only be one of the doctors." Chizuru looked at him surprised, was this something she did not had expected. Who would say that one of his fellows was the culprit ? Nevertheless, she showed nothing of it as she stood up from her chair with a fake smile. "I go to Hana-chan to see if I can help her. Thank you for taking care of me!" With her words, she excused herself from doctor Matsumoto and left the room.

\* \* \*

><p><em>He hid his body behind a pillar with his gun in hands, while he waited for a sound to reveal him the position of his enemies. The boy's face was covered with mud and blood, while his clothes were torn. His red eyes looked around the corner to see if there was someone, as he heard a sound. Quickly, he drew back to avoid that the bullet hit his head and took out a deep breath. He looked down to his gun.<em>

^I have only three bullets left. How shall I finish them off with this ?^\_

\_He gritted his teeth by this thought and cursed under his breath as he heard how more and more bullets were fired in his direction, but thanks to the pillar, nothing of the bullets hit him. Nevertheless, he had to do something to elude this situation. The big question was, what should he do ? He could not run away. Then, they would shoot him. His gaze wandered around in search for a way for his escape as something came in his mind.\_

\_He was not allowed to run away.\_

\_When he would do it, \_\_\*\*they \*\*\_\_would kill him without hesitation. No, this was something he did not wanted. He wanted to see the world with his own eyes and learn more about it. With a determined expression, he looked back to hear that his enemies had stopped to shot him as another thought crossed his mind. Where was his partner ? Should he not be by his side and help him ? With another curse, the boy decided he had to do something. He left his hideout and ran in the direction of a house as he heard how his enemies shot again at him. He had nearly reached his destination when he felt how one of the bullets hit his body and fell to the ground.\_

"\_Jackpot!" One of the men shouted as he stormed in the direction of him with his companions. But as he saw the boy, he frowned. "Oi, this is only a brat." Just this moment, the other men arrived and followed his gaze as he continued. "What shall we do with him, Hayate-san ?" Hayate knelt down and reached for the boy to turn him around so he could see his face. The boy wined in pain and coughed up blood, but this was something the men simply ignored. He stood up and turned around. "Finish the brat off. I had not expected a child in the middle of the war. But because we \_\_\_are\_\_\_ in war, we should kill him." The other man nodded before he took his gun and halted it in he direction of the head of the boy as his two companions turned around to walk away.\_

\_The boy opened his red orbs and looked in the eyes of the man who wanted to kill him. Was this the end of his life ? Should he really die without seeing the sun again ? Alone and useless as he was ? He wanted to say something as he felt how the man touched his hair and pulled. "Oi why is your hair white kid ?" He opened his mouth but closed it again. He was not allowed to tell them about what happened to him. Instead, he grinned and spat him in the face. "Go to hell."\_

"\_What the- IÂ'll kill you !" He threw his weapon away and grabbed for his throat to strangle him to death. First, the boy did nothing, but then he reached for his hands and tried to free himself. To his bad luck, he possessed not enough strength to do this. He felt how more and more air escaped his pained lungs until nothing was left. It would be only a matter of time until he would suffocate. His lungs screamed for air, but there was no way he could do something to free himself from the strong grip. Step by step, darkness clouded his mind, took him away from his plan and let his body go limp. \_

\_The man above him pressed his throat more together to kill him more quickly as suddenly, another boy with white hair jumped in and threw himself on the man. In the next moment, he could breath again and coughed hardly. He raised his body from the ground and saw how his partner fought against the man as he saw how the other two turned around and one of them took out a gun to shoot at him. He wanted to shout his name to warn him, but his voice was gone. In horror, he saw how the man named Hayate shot with cold eyes his friend in the head.\_

~xXx~

"Okita-san ?" He heard the voice of a woman calling his name. It was a voice he had heard before. When Souji opened his eyes, he saw the girl named Sen standing next to his desk, looking worried. "Are you alright ?" He was not sure if he was still dreaming or if he was awake as he looked at her. Was there ever a time when somebody was worried about him ? He could not remember. But her next words took him back by surprise. "Okita-san ? Why are you crying ?" He was what ? He touched his cheek to feel the wetness of the single tear that left his right eye. But besides this, he felt the unnatural warmth he was radiating. Had he not took enough of his pills, he wondered.

"Of course he is alright, donÂ't be too concerned Sen." The voice of Hideyoshi broke through the silence, let Souji look in his direction. He saw how the blue-haired man stared at him with this gaze that told him how he detested him. This feeling was mutual. "But-" She was interrupted by Souji.

"He is right, Sen-chan. I am fine." Souji forced his trademark smile on his lips as he looked at her in hope she would believe his lie. To his luck, she nodded. "When you say so, Okita-san." He stood up from his chair and walked to the coffee machine to make himself a strong coffee as he felt how his lilac mark began to burn. He looked to his arm to see that it got bigger than before, could you see it under the sleeve of his shirt. Suddenly, his mobile-phone began to ring. With a more than confused expression on his face, he looked at the display. Was it Hijikata ? Or Saito ? All his guesses were wrong as he saw an unknown number. Without long thinking, he selected the button. "\_Okita-san ?" \_This voice...was this Chizuru ? No, this could not be. He had threatened her when she would call him again. But, what

when she was it ? "Chizuru-chan ? Is this you ?"

"\_Yes, it's me. I have new information about our case." \_Now, Souji's coffee was ready. He walked back to his desk to sit down while Sen still stood besides him. "Is it Chizuru-chan ?" Souji only nodded as he took a sip from his coffee before he laid it on the desk. "What is it ?" A short pause developed between them where no one said a word until Chizuru spoke out the words Souji had expected.

"\_I know now who the culprit is." \_

### 13. Chapter 12

**\*\*Next chapter is up! I am sorry for my lateness, but I somehow forgot to update this story. \*bows in apology\* I want to thank you Missu for your kind words. It's good to hear that you like my work. I really appreciate it! And thank you for all of your reviews! You just made my day! So, without further ado, enjoy and tell me what you think!**  
><strong>

#### \_Chapter 12\_

"Hana-chan ?" Chizuru opened the door of the office and looked around for the blond haired girl. Suddenly, she heard a soft noise and a pained voice which could be hear seconds later. "Ow, Ow, damn it! I am so clumsy." Her gaze wandered to a the desk from where the noises came and walked to it. Behind the desk, she saw the girl Hana sitting on her butt while she rubbed the dent on her head. All the papers she had received from doctor Matsumoto were scattered around her together with thick books which fell from the bookshelf. The round glasses she normally wore laid abandoned on the ground. Just this moment, the girl seemed to notice the change of her eyesight. "Oh no my glasses! Where are my glasses ?"

She cried out in shock as she began to search for her glasses on the ground. Chizuru watched her doings for several seconds until she decided to help her. She knelt down and picked up the object. "Here. I found your glasses." The other girl stopped her doings abruptly and looked with big blue eyes to Chizuru. "Are you a goddess ?" Chizuru only shook her head in amusement and gave her the desired object. "Here."

Hana received it with a short 'Thanks' and put it on. Immediately, her eyesight become clearer so she could recognize Chizuru. "It's you!"

"Do you need any help, Hana-chan ?" The other girl thought not long about her offer and nodded. "Hai, there is indeed something..." She stood up as if nothing happened and began to gather the papers which laid around while Chizuru helped her by doings this. After that, they laid the papers on the desk and began to pick up the books and put them back in the bookshelf

"Thank you for helping me!" Her face was beaming as she looked at Chizuru who replied it with a faint smile. "You're welcome. Can I help you with other things ?" Again, Hana nodded. "Yes. I shall work through all these papers. Your help would be great." Both sat

themselves on a chair and started with their work. It passed a long time where no one said a word until Hana broke the silence.

"Chizuru-chan ?" She looked up from her papers. "What is it, Hana-chan ?" The blond haired girl nibbled on her bottom lip. "Are we...friends now ?" First, Chizuru was more than confused about her behavior. Chizuru sighed as she looked in the big azure blue eyes of the girl.

"Yes, we are friends." Hana sighed in relief by her answer and grinned widely. "Then I am happy. Thank you, Chizuru-chan." An undefinable look appeared on Hana's face she could not describe. It lasted for some seconds until Chizuru decided to continue with her investigation. "Have you heard from the missing organs ?" Hana looked firstly confused until she nodded. "Hai, I heard from it. Alone the imagination is horrible." Chizuru nodded. "Yes, I even heard that one of the doctor's shall be the culprit." She knew it was not allowed to her to share such information, but she hoped to get to know who the culprit was on this way. Hana seemed to be surprised by her statement.

"Really ? I didn't hear this. But one thing is sure: The culprit needs the organs for someone important." Now, Chizuru was the one who was surprised. "What do you mean ?" Hana smiled. "Who would take the risk to loose his job when its not for a relative ?" She was right. It all made sense. No one would do this to gain money. No, the goal behind had to be a high one. This meant she had to search through the files of the doctors.

After she had excused herself from Hana, she walked to the archives to look for the personnel files. To her luck, nobody was in as she entered and saw the tons of paper who laid in the shelves. She closed the door and pressed the light switch while she stared at the many work she had to do. "This will last long." With a deep sigh, Chizuru started with her search.

A long time passed in which Chizuru searched through the papers with no result. Only in the last rank she found what she was looking for. She opened the box in which the files were located and read through every single one. There stood everything of the doctors. But as she read one file, she frowned and took photos from it. As she scrolled forward, she saw what she was looking for. Her face fell as she saw who the culprit was. She had never thought that this person would do this. Without a word, she took out her mobile-phone and called for Okita. She did not know why she called him and not Hideyoshi or Sen. Perhaps she did it because they were partner ?

However, after he received her call, she spoke.

"Okita-san ?" He seemed to think about something as he said for a long time nothing until he raised his voice. "\_Chizuru-chan ? Is this you ?"\_ She frowned. "Yes, it's me. I have new information about our case." Again, a longer silence developed between them until Okita spoke again. "\_What is it ?"\_ Chizuru took a deep breath before she answered his question. "I know now who the culprit is."

"\_Shall I come to you ?"\_ Chizuru did not think long. "Yes, come here at night. I think the culprit will show himself." She heard a sound on the other end of the line which sounded like a grunt. "\_Alright."

Let's see who it is." \_

"Yukimura-san ?" Chizuru froze in place as she heard the voice of doctor Uso who stood behind her, looking down at her with a questioning look. Slowly, she turned her head around to see him standing there with folded arms. "What are you doing here ?" She thought about an answer as the voice of Okita echoed from her mobile-phone. \_"Chizuru-chan ?" S\_he turned it off to avoid any more problems before she stood up from her sitting position and forced a smile on her lips. "Uso-sensei! Matsumoto-sensei told me I should get him some files from the archives." With this, she showed to the open box on the ground. Doctor Uso only raised an eyebrow. "Why would he want to see the personnel files ?"

Chizuru repressed a gulp. Damn, what should she do ? Before she could think about another excuse, she heard how the door opened again and another person walked to them. "Chizuru-chan! Matsumoto-sensei is looking for you." With this, Hana halted in front of them. Just this moment she noticed the doctor. "Oh hello Uso-sensei." Before someone could say more, Hana grabbed for Chizuru's wrist and pulled her with her out of the room while the doctor looked after the girls with a thoughtful expression.

~XXx~

It was already dark when she waited at the hospital for Okita's arrive. The file with the truth in hands, she looked at the street to see when he was coming. She knew it was only a question of time when the culprit would steal more organs. This was something they had to prevent. She did not want that more humans had to die because of this. As a policewoman, it was her duty to stop this and help the people, no matter what.

She heard the sound of Okita's motorbike that came closer and closer until it stopped in front of her. He left his motorbike and put down his helmet to show her his usual grin. She only rolled her eyes. "Come on. The culprit is already in." With her words, she showed to the light which could be seen from the outside in a floor where nobody should be at this time. It was the place where the organs were. He nodded. "Let's go." Chizuru just wanted to go as she noticed the back which Okita held in his hands. "What is this ?" She asked her as she looked curiously at his bag. He only smiled. "You will see it soon." With his words, he swung the bag over his shoulder before he passed her.

They entered together the hospital through the backdoor and walked slowly to the place where the organs were stored. After they reached it, both positioned themselves with their service weapons at the door. Chizuru just wanted to open the door as Okita grabbed for her hand and whispered. "Let me do it. I have a plan." Chizuru looked dubiously at him. She could not really believe that he had a good plan how they could do this peacefully. Chizuru did not want that Okita killed this man like he did with Goro and the stalker. No, this was something she had to prevent she had sworn to herself. "No, I will come with you." Okita looked at her for a long time until he sighed. "Mee Chizuru-chan is really something." He took the bag down from his shoulder and took out a vest he held in her direction as if he had known her answer from the very beginning. "Here, this is for you."

"What shall I-" He did not let her finish as he spoke. "This is a bulletproof vest. You should wear it when you don't want to die." She looked at him as if he had told her something crazy. Why would this person shoot at her ? She could not really understand it. "I don't think I will need it, but thanks." Chizuru put on the vest before she readied herself for the raid. With a determined expression, she kicked the door open and entered with Okita the room to see a person in a black cloak. The person turned in shock around and looked at them.

"We arrest you due to organ trafficking. We-" Before she could finish her sentence, the person threw a lamp in their direction and ran out of the room through the emergency exit. Chizuru froze while Okita chased after the person. After some seconds, she did the same. "Wait Okita-san!" He did not hear her words and ran faster. Chizuru never saw before a person who could run as fast as Okita. He ran in an inhuman speed. Because of this, he could catch up with the culprit and threw himself on the person. Chizuru reached them some time later and stopped as she saw how Okita sat on the back of the person while he hold the wrists behind the back of the person.

"Resistance is futile. Now, show me your face." With this, he took off the hood to see a man with blond hair and azure blue eyes who struggled against his grip. "Let me go!" Chizurus eyes widened lightly as she saw who it was, even if she knew it from the file she had read and was still holding. In this moment, she let it fall and sank to her knees. "So it was really you, Uso-sensei." The man named Uso looked back to see her. "I knew from the very beginning you were not a normal trainee. I should have known that you are from the police."

"Why Uso-sensei ? Why have you done it ?" The doctor laughed. "You ask me really why, even if you read my file ?" She looked sadly at the file in her hands where a picture of a smiling woman could be seen. "Your wife is dying. This was your reason for looking for a organ. But I wanted to know why you could not wait like all the others do ?"

"Because she has no time! In three days, everything is over!" He screamed in her direction while he stopped struggling against Okita. Chizuru closed her eyes, saw the picture of her mother in front of her eyes. As she opened them, a new expression could be seen. "But this don't give you the right to kill other people for it when you steal organs!" He only laughed. "Other lives ? They can die. I don't care." He did not stopped his laughter while Chizurus eyes widened in shock. What was he saying ? "But you're a doctor and you're job is to save life!" Abruptly, he stopped. "What kind of a point of view do you have ? In this world, everyone should look after themselves." She choked. "N-No this is wrong. It-"

"Stop this, Chizuru-chan. He is not worth it." Okita's voice interrupted her as he broke doctor Uso's right wrist, let him scream in pain. "You- damn it!" In the next moment, Okita stood up and looked down to the man who writhed on the ground like a snake. Then, he stretched out his hand to touch his forehead as he felt how Chizuru grabbed after his wrist. "Please, don't kill him!" He looked at her annoyed. "Chizuru-chan, this is not the time for-"

"No, I will not let you kill him." With this she pushed his hand away and positioned herself in front of doctor Uso as she heard a loud

bang and felt how her body was pushed forward. Her eyes widened in disbelief as she sank to her knees and looked back to see a gun in doctor Uso's hands. "U-Uso-sensei ?" The doctor laughed like a maniac as he saw Chizuru's shocked expression. "Did you really think I would let both of you live after what you witnessed ?" With this, he held the gun in Okita's direction who stayed undismayed. "Now, you're the next." With this, he shot with his gun in the direction of Okita's head while Chizuru screamed. "Okita-san!" The bullet flew through the air, but before it could hit Okita, it melted away as fire began to rule his body. The eyes of the man named Uso widened in disbelief as he felt the heat of the fire.

"W-Who are you ?" Okita smiled. "I am your death." With this, he stretched out his hand to touch him as the man fired all his bullets in his direction. But none of them hit him as they all melted away like ice in the sun. With fearful eyes doctor Uso looked at him and then to Chizuru. "P-Please do something. I swear I will never kill others again!" She saw first tears in his eyes but Okita showed that he was not affected at all. But she was. Chizuru stood up, had she recovered from the shock wave of the bullet that plugged in her vest which protected her and stopped Okita again. "Please, give him the chance to be sentenced from justice, Okita-san." He sighed. "Chizuru-chan, when will you understand that he has forfeited his life ?"

"You're wrong! He has not forfeited his life! Everyone deserves a second chance!" Okita stared at her as if she were insane and shook his head. "Chizuru, there are people who doesn't deserve this. Or would you give a murderer a second chance ?" Chizuru thought about his statement for a long moment as suddenly, doctor Uso grabbed after Chizuru and held his gun on her head. "When you do a wrong motion, she'll die." Okita only laughed before he tended his head to the side. "When you want to kill her so vigorously, then do it." Doctor Uso looked at him puzzled while Chizuru's gaze showed fear and shock. Would he really kill her ? And, more important, would it really did not matter for Okita ?

"Are you kidding me ? She is your partner! Why would you be so calm seeing her in danger ?" No one could understand Okita in this moment as his wicked grin widened. "Sure, she is my partner. But she can be replaced." Now, Uso's anger arose. "What are you talking about, you heartless bastard ? I would die for my wife!" The last part he shouted in his direction but even this did not affect him at all. He only shrugged. "Do what you want." The doctor let go of Chizuru before he pointed the gun again to Okita, before he threw it away. "How did you know I had no bullets left ?" He shook his head. "Intuition."

The man fell to his knees while he dug his fingernails in the ground as he heard how Okita walked in his direction, stretching out his hand. Doctor Uso reached for his hand to stand up as he felt how the fire ate its way over his skin and screamed in pain. Chizuru's eyes widened as she saw how Uso burned. "Uso-sensei!" But it was too late. No one could help him. She saw how the doctor named Uso burned until only ash was the last leftover of his existence. Tears began to form in her eyes as she looked to Okita who watched the whole scene apathetic. How could a human feel nothing when another human died ? She could definitely not understand it.

Now, the tears flowed freely out of her eyes down her cheeks as she

fell again on her knees, stretching her hands out to touch the ash that flew away. Because the ash was gone, nothing was left of his existence as a human on this earth. It was as if he had never existed. And this was something she did not want. She did not want that he disappeared like all the other ones and died an insignificant death. No, this was something he had not deserved. He was a human who had the right to live. But now, he was death. There was no life she could protect.

She bit hard on her bottom lip so blood flowed out of the wound to suppress her anger that was boiling up in her body. All the fear she had felt as doctor Uso had threatened her life was gone. Only anger against this one person was present and she did not know how to handle it. Chizuru wanted so badly that doctor Uso came back to life because she knew it was all her fault. Because she was too slow and did not see it coming, he had to die. When she had known what he was up to do, she had stopped him for sure. But now it was too late. He was dead and she was still alive.

"Okita-san..." He turned his head in her direction. "Yes, Chizuru-chan ?" She clenched her fists as she saw his face and closed her eyes pained before she opened them again. "I do not care what you think about this, but one thing is sure. IÂ'll not accept that you kill other people." Okita only smirked. "You can try." With this, their conversation ended. Not many time passed and Okita walked back to his motorbike together with Chizuru. This time, Chizuru did not protest against it. After she received the helmet from Okita and put it on, she sat herself behind him. He started the motorbike and drove together with her away. None of them noticed the pair of eyes which saw everything.

~xXx~

Three days later, Chizuru was sitting alone in her apartment and read through the newspaper in hope to shorten the time. It was a peaceful Saturday evening where she had nothing to do besides some chores in the household. Her gaze wandered deeper after she read the current article as she spotted something she had not expected. There was a article about UsoÂ's wife who died this day. Quickly, she laid the paper on the table in front of her as if she had burnt her hands. This could not be true. It was simply not possible that of all people \_she\_ saw it.

Shaking her head, she walked to the kitchen to see if dinner was ready. She had made curry for herself, was it a long time ago she had made it last. Even if she was not the best cook, she knew she could eat it without worry to die a painful death. She lifted up the pot lid and tasted if she could start with dinner.

Like expected, it was ready.

Chizuru lifted the pot from the cooker and carried the pot to the table in the living room to serve the food as she heard how the bell rang. Confused who would it be who disturbed her peaceful moment, she walked to the door to open it only to reveal a drained Hana. "Chizuru-chan!" The girl jumped without another word in her arms and hugged her tightly. Overwhelmed from the not predictable event, she did not reply the hug. Instead, she looked down to Hana.

"Hana-chan ? What happened ?" The blond haired girl sobbed as Chizuru



helped her to walk in her apartment and both entered the living room. The scent of Chizuru's cooking hung in the air but no one paid attention to it. Both girls walked to the big couch where they sat down and Chizuru broke the silence between them. "Hana-chan. Can you now tell me what happened?" Hana nodded by her words, even if it was really difficult for her to remain calm. "O-Otou-san...is disappeared. And my stepmother is dead!" Chizuru's eyes widened by her words. She had expected everything to hear but not this. Trying to remain calm, Chizuru replied. "Do you know where your father could be? Perhaps he is only out of town."

"No, Otou-san would never go without saying me. He did not even appear at work." A bad feeling developed in Chizuru. "Where do you know this?" Hana sobbed again as more and more tears left her eyes. It was too late to hold them back. "Because we work both in the same hospital. He is an important doctor." Chizuru felt how the sweat covered her forehead. No, this could not be. Her father could not be. "What's his name?" Now, the blond haired girl looked confused at her before she responded. "Itoe Uso. Why are you asking?"

Her heart beat faster and faster as she realized who Okita killed this one night. He had killed Hana's father. And this was something she could not handle. Hana was her friend. How could she look into those innocent big blue eyes without being remembered of the death of her father and her guilt that she had not prevented it? Alone this thought nearly killed her. With wide more strength, she tried to look to Hana without crying on her own for what she did. But as she saw the tears in Hana's eyes she could not bear it.

Abruptly, she stood up from her sitting position and walked like a broken puppet to the window. "I am sure he will come back." Her words surprised Hana as she looked up to only see Chizuru's back. She did not even bother to look to her as she continued. "Your father is a good man. And good men don't die, do they?" Her simple words brought a smile on her lips as she looked to Chizuru. "I am sure you're right." Then, Chizuru turned around and looked at her with a forced smile that Hana did not recognize as such. "Well, then where is the problem?" Hana's face brightened as she walked to her and hugged her again. "Thank you for being there for me."

Chizuru was glad that Hana looked not in her face. Because when she would do it, she would see the tears that left her eyes.

~xXx~

"So Uso-sensei is dead. Are you sure it was him who killed this doctor?"

He demanded the dark-haired woman who knelt in front of him. The woman raised her head and looked in the azure blue eyes of the blond haired man who waited impatiently for a response from her. "Yes, it was definitely him. I've seen it with my own eyes." The man smirked as he stood up from his chair and walked to the window.

He could see that a storm was coming.

As he turned around, he saw that the woman was still there. "You can go." She bowed one last time before she left the room. He turned around and looked out the window while he murmured. "Okita Souji. Finally I've found you. I wonder if the others are still with you."

It would be interesting to see them again." With a pleased grin, he turned away from the window as a lightening could be seen that raced over the sky.

End  
file.